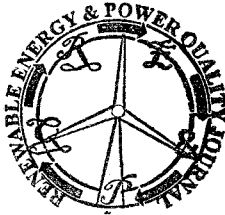


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## Advantages and Barriers for the development of the use of Renewable Energy Sources in Latvia

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**Abstract.** Enquire Advantages and Barriers for the development of the use of Renewable Energy Sources in Latvia is the Aim of paper. Existing Policy & Strategy as well as new tendency in the use of renewable energy sources (RES) in Latvia will be presented in the paper. The main directions of the energy policy are aimed at improving the security of energy supply of the country by encouraging diversification of supplies of primary energy resources. Creation of competitive conditions, promotion of the use of renewable and local energy resources and environmental protection also play a substantial role.

In accordance with the Latvian "Law on the Energy Performance of Buildings" environmental and economic considerations, as well as binding regulations of the local government and other regulatory enactments, shall be taken into account in designing buildings, in order to evaluate the possibility to use as an alternative solution in these buildings systems, in which RES are used. Latvia is abundant in wood and hydropower.

Papers will describe the using opportunities of the renewable energy resources in Latvian conditions. Recommendations for RES effective and rational use will be presented taking in account new legislation.

### Key words

Renewable energy resources use, renewable energy resources use strategy and policy.

### 1. Introduction

The main directions of the energy policy are aimed at improving the security of energy supply of the country by encouraging diversification of supplies of primary energy resources. Creation of competitive conditions, promotion of the use of renewable and local energy resources and environmental protection also play a substantial role.

The main objectives of the energy policy are to ensure sustainable accessibility to the necessary energy resources and security of supply in order to foster economic growth and improve quality of life; to ensure environmental quality retention and meet the objectives set in the Kyoto protocol of UN FCCC and Latvian Climate Change Program on GHG emissions reduction for years 2005 – 2010.

### 2. Policy and Strategy for the RES use

#### A. Energy policy framework documents:

##### 1) Guidelines for Energy Sector Development for 2007-2016

The main bases for Energy policy are: The guidelines to ensure security of supply in the country as the main goal of energy Policy. The increasing of self sufficiency and greater diversification of energy resources supply are the next very important subjects of Energy sector development. Latvia has to search for its own fossil fuels and to increase effective use of renewable sources of energy and energy production in cogeneration (CHP) processes;

##### 2) Guidelines for Use of Renewable Sources of Energy for 2006-2013

Setting targets for the use of RES are:

- 49.3 % share of RES-E by 2010;
- 8 % share of electricity produced in highly efficient CHP using biomass by 2016;
- 5.75 % share of biofuels in total consumption by 2010;
- 10 % share of biofuels by 2016 (in comparison to less than 2 % in 2006).
- 35 % share of RES in the Energy Balance (in comparison to 28 % in 2007).