



Press release

A-TEC Industries welcomes Commission draft legislation on state aid for carbon capture and storage ready coal-fired power stations

Vienna, 2 April 2010 – A-TEC Industries welcomes a groundbreaking European Commission decision, contained in draft legislation obtained by Reuters, to permit state aid for coal-fired power stations from 2013 onwards. To qualify for state aid, the power stations will have to be retrofitted for carbon capture and storage (CCS). A-TEC's planned coal-fired power station at its Voitsberg site is designed to meet this requirement from the ground up, making it the only power plant in Austria to do so. The converted Voitsberg plant is to be CCS ready when it comes online.

The Commission's decision is designed to address the need to meet both rising energy demand and stricter environmental standards. Although renewable energy sources are being rapidly developed as a result of heavy subsidies, output will not be sufficient to keep up with the growth in electricity demand over the next few decades. However coal, gas and nuclear power are also available as alternative energy sources. Due to Austria's decision to pull out of nuclear power over 30 years ago, and the emergence of gas shortages in Europe, coal will play a vital part in energy supplies for the next 50 years. In this situation the Voitsberg power station has a key role to play in improving Austrian energy supply security and independence. The A-TEC Industries Group's research and development activities include work on CCS technologies, which will help make tomorrow's coal-fired power stations both cleaner and more efficient. To this end the group plans to open a centre of environmental technology expertise at the Voitsberg site.

About A-TEC Industries AG:

Vienna-listed and headquartered A-TEC Industries AG is an international industrial group with thriving Drive Technology, Plant Construction, Machine Tools and Minerals & Metals divisions. The Group currently employs around 11,900 people, and preliminary results for 2009 show revenue of about EUR 3.0 billion.

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