

## Declaration of Utrecht – the Netherlands Switches to New Energy

7 Political Party Committees, consisting of:

the CDA Sustainability Committee, ChristenUnie TPC Sustainability,  
D66 Platform Sustainable Development, GroenLinks Environment Network,  
PvdA National Workgroup Environment & Energy, SGP WI Workgroup Energy,  
VVD Committee Environment & Sustainability

In the past few months members of the seven political party committees for sustainable development convened, agreed upon and wrote the motion “**the Netherlands Switches to New Energy**.” In order to accomplish this, several rounds of discussion were held and contributions were made by McKinsey & Company, Boston Consulting Group, KEMA, CE Delft, UCAD en PBL.

The party committees hereby find that:

The Netherlands needs new energy. Our present sources of energy will increasingly fail to meet rising world demand of affordable energy. This leads to price increases, recessions, poverty, social unrest and geopolitical tensions. Moreover, our present energy mix reinforces the intensified climate changes with large ecological and economic damage.

The party committees hereby consider that:

Research has shown that large scale energy saving programs show immediate profits and that a rapid transition to a complete renewable energy supply is technically possible. The challenge in creating the right societal and economic conditions for this transition will demand much of our country, but will also render much due to the uncoupling from the oil price, improvement of our international competitiveness, new employment and a healthier environment.

The above party committees are calling upon our representatives and political leaders to execute the motion “**the Netherlands Switches to New Energy**”, naming the following ten points of action as the most important:

1. Formulate as a national priority a complete renewable energy supply in 2050, by yearly savings of 3% and an annual growth in renewable energy of 7%.
2. Establish clear long-term boundary conditions in a Delta law New Energy within which the government, citizens and businesses are stimulated to start new activities and innovations.
3. Increase the application of the generally accepted ‘the polluter pays’ principal by imposing consistent fiscal consequences to realize environmental management.
4. Offer energy intensive industries the chance to meet stringent standards within a reasonable amount of time in order to maintain their international competitiveness.
5. Administer a legally endorsed feed-in tariff with which a stimulating climate for investment in renewable energy and co-generation can be created.
6. Establish a National Energy Investment Fund to make energy saving measures and investments in renewable energy easier to finance.
7. Invest as quickly as possible in a smart energy infrastructure, with which the variable rate of renewable energy question and demand can be synchronized.

8. Oblige all energy suppliers to offer an increasingly higher percentage of renewable energy and announce an immediate stop of all new building of conventional power generation plants of non-renewable energy.
9. Promote energy efficient behavior with a wide range of governmental measures such as a much improved public transportation, more stringent product norms, etc.
10. Invest in knowledge and know-how in the new expertise area of “clean-tech”, which can put our country in the world-wide top ten of this enormous growth market in 2015.