E.ON due diligence report

Market position

In 2007 the Group described itself as:

- #1 in power and gas sales in Central Europe
- #1 in gas supply in Europe
- # 1 in power generation in Kentucky, US
- # 1 in power and gas sales in Kentucky, US
- # 2 in power generation in Central Europe
- # 2 in power generation in the UK
- # 3 in power and gas sales in the UK
- # 3 in power sales in the Nordic region
- # 4 in power generation in the Nordic region
- the world's 7th-largest wind-farm operator

It also describes:

- E.ON Wasserkraft, a wholly-owned subsidiary of E.ON Energie, as Germany's leading generator of renewable energy (more than 130 hydroelectric power plants on the Danube, Inn, Isar, Main, Lech, Eder, Diemel, Fulda, Werra, Weser, and Leine rivers)
- E.ON Kernkraft, a wholly-owned subsidiary of E.ON Energie, as Europe's largest privately-owned nuclear-energy company (11 nuclear power plants)
- E.ON Kraftwerke, a wholly-owned subsidiary of E.ON Energie, as Germany's largest conventional generator of electricity (more than 30 coal, gas, oil, and biomass-fired power plants)
- E.ON Netz, a wholly-owned subsidiary of E.ON Energie, as one of Europe's largest privately-owned electric transmission network operators

Presence in international sustainability indices and funds[1]

E.ON is present in the following indices:

- ASPI - Advanced Sustainable Performance Indices
- Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) EURO STOXX
- DJSI EURO STOXX ex. Alcohol, Tob

- Pioneer Funds - Global Ecology (Activest Lux Eco Tech)
- Postbank Dynamik Vision
- SAM Sustainable European Equity Fund
- SEB Ethical Europa Fund
- Vontobel Fund Global Trend New Power Tech A1

B. Energy-related information

Gas and electricity sales
In 2007, gas sales were 1,212.5 billion kilowatt hours (kWh) and electricity sales were 470.8 billion kWh. These were divided amongst the five main market units as follows:

Market	Gas	Electricity
Central Europe	10.4%	66.5%
Pan-European gas	75.1%	–
UK	13.0%	16.5%
Nordic	0.4%	9.5%
US Midwest	1.1%	7.5%

Energy sources[2]

Coal
In 2007, coal-fired power plants accounted for 36% of E.ON's generating capacity and 44.5% of generated electricity. They used 44.8 million tons of coal, supplied from the US (44.4%), Russia (13.6%), South Africa (10.5%), Germany (9.7%), Great Britain (8.5%), Colombia (8%), Poland (2.2%), Indonesia (1.3%), Norway (0.9%), and Australia (0.9%).

While the generation capacity from coal-fired plants is planned to decrease to around 30% by 2015, the total amount of electricity generated from coal will increase. Nine new coal-fired power plants are currently under construction or planned in Europe and the US, representing about 40% of planned new capacity. In addition, there are plans to replace old coal-fired power plants with more efficient plants

decrease in total electricity generated from nuclear power is presumably due to current government plans to decommission all nuclear power plants in Germany by 2020. The Group plans to build a 1,500-2,000MW nuclear power plant in Finland, which represents about 8% of planned new capacity, and two new plants in the UK, as well as . E.ON is also exploring the building of new plants in other countries where nuclear power is being reconsidered as an option, and plans to upgrade existing nuclear power stations. It is additionally lobbying for the lifespan of Germany's aging nuclear reactors to be extended, rather than be decommissioned as currently planned. The Group's generation capacity from nuclear power will presumably change if such changes to government policy occur and E.ON upgrades existing, or builds new, plants.

Natural gas and oil

Gas- and oil-fired power plants accounted for 29% of generation capacity and 12% of generated electricity in 2007. The plants used 6.9 million tons of gas (including LPG) and 1.1 million tons of oil. No information was found on where oil and gas for electricity generation came from.

At least 11 new combined cycle gas turbine plants are under construction or planned in Europe, accounting for around 38% of planned new capacity. The Group is also systematically replacing out-dated gas-fired plants. The generatioed /2rTw 10.105 0 Td(or sioned as c0yd2uil2(-)95.0027 Tw -18.2c -4 nera c)]

In 2007, E.ON's power stations supplied 49% of the total electricity required by the Central Europe,

II CSR Information[4]

A. Overview

E.ON says that it views corporate responsibility as equal measures of "social engagement and environmental protection, climate protection, provision of safe and attractive workplaces, security of supply and a dependable contribution to the national economies of the countries in which [it] is located".[5]

The Group has made public commitments to corporate and social responsibility as well as to reducing CO_2 emissions and other environmental impacts, which are explained to various degrees on market unit websites and in corporate publications. It has made a number of efforts in the last couple of years to put CSR policies into place. For example, in 2007: a revised and clarified employee Code of Conduct came into force; key principles required for establishing a responsible procurement policy were approved and incorporated into general purchasing terms; a groupwide health and safety strategy was approved; and a commitment to reduce specific CO_2 emissions was made, detailed below.

The Group often presents itself in terms of renewable energy and its commitment to the environment. For example, the homepages of the corporate website (www.eon.com) and many other market units (Central Europe (E.ON Energie), UK (E.ON UK), Pan-European Gas (E.ON Ruhrgas), US Midwest (E.ON US), and Climate & Renewables) make prominent mention of the environment and the climate. This is usually in conjunction with E.ON's development of renewable energy sources; the homepage of E.ON Ruhrgas says that gas is "good for the climate and the environment". The Spain and Russia market units do not mention the environment on their homepages, but feature a picture of wind turbines and solar panels, respectively.

B. Sustainable development policies and strategies

- The E.ON corporate website mentions that the Group is developing an **environment and climate protection guideline** that, once approved by the board (expected in 2008), will be mandatory in all market units. It says that climate protection covers activities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency and CO_2 -free electricity generation, and that environmental protection will address operational environmental protection, including environmental management systems, as well as biodiversity and ocean protection.

  The website also mentions the E.ON **Health & Safety Environment Management System**, which sets behavior guidelines and groupwide minimum standards for health, safety and the environment. This is perhaps the guideline mentioned above. No copy of this was found; however the website says it is a groupwide system that defines areas of responsibility, processes and reporting pathways for managing environmental protection. It also says E.ON's environmental protection data is harmonized and clearly documented, and that E.ON has groupwide standards for environmental management which are based on the ISO 14001 or European Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) standard.

[4] Unless otherwise specified, the information in this section refers to E.ON at a corporate level
[5] www.eon.com/en/downloads/E.ON_CR_US.pdf

Civil society and university groups
E.ON provides financial support for basic energy research at universities in Germany, the UK, the US, and Sweden. The Group's research initiative will invest around €60 million in international energy research projects until 2016.

Different E.ON subsidiaries also work with various civil society groups. E.ON UK, for example, works with environmental groups, social welfare groups, and other charities[11].

Communities
The Group has a strategy for community involvement (the strategy was not found on their website).

Different E.ON subsidiaries and operations run visitor centers and scheduled meetings for the local community; engage local communities in dialog on planned new infrastructure and operations; and sponsor various community programs and events including cultural and sporting events; education programs for children, and programs to help children.

Employees
Some E.ON subsidiaries run programs to raise environmental awareness among employees. E.ON UK, for example, has commissioned UK charity Global Action Plan to help employees reduce their impact on the environment.

fuels) to 10 grams CO_2/kWh (Nordic, where only 3.2% of electricity is generated from fossil fuels). The only market unit which seems to have made significant reductions to specific emissions since 1990 is E.ON UK, and these reductions occurred before E.ON UK was part of the E.ON Group[12].

In 2007, E.ON set a target of further reducing specific emissions to 360 grams CO_2/kWh by 2030 (see "Sustainable development policies and strategies", above). Note that while this strategy will reduce the amount of CO_2 released per kilowatt hour electricity generated, actual emissions may still increase by 2030 if generation capacity increases enough.

To achieve this target, the group is investing in renewable energy sources and more efficient coal- and gas-fired power plants. The Group is aiming for more than half of its energy mix to be CO_2-free by 2030, through nuclear power, coal-fired power generation with carbon capture and storage (CCS), and renewable energies. E.ON is working to develop CCS technology; all new coal-fired plants will be ready for carbon capture and storage (CCS); and by 2020 all new coal-fired plants are intended to be equipped with CCS. The remainder of the energy mix will have reduced CO_2 emissions through more efficient coal- and gas-fired power plants "incorporating the best available technology". For example, three new coal-fired plan-fi -0.00sorporating9f iuer8(a)-ny

Water
E.ON says that because water is readily available at its power stations, reducing water intake has a lower priority than other environmental protection issues, but that nevertheless the Group makes sure water is used wisely.

E.ON's largest usage of water by far is for cooling power plants. The water is either drawn from a nearby river or body of water or is part of a closed-loop system. Water is also used to produce steam; 95-99% of this is recondensed and used again. Water is additionally used for applications like desulphurization.

The Group's consumption of process water (the amount of water used for electricity production, minus cooling water) in 2007 was 106.4 million m^3.

Biodiversity
The E.ON corporate website says that the Group is in the process of defining groupwide guidelines for biodiversity which are expected to be place in 2008. It says E.ON is careful to preserve and protect the natural environment at all facilities and in all construction projects, and that if it proves impossible to maintain nature and landscape integrity then the Group generally undertakes offsetting and replacement measures. The focus is on three types of nature conservation: landscape, waterway and bird protection.

E.ON UK already has a biodiversity policy (see "Sustainable development policies and strategies", above), and a pilot project is being carried out by E.ON Nordic.

E.ON UK[14], E.ON Nordic, and E.ON US[15] run local conservation programs based around their power plant sites. For example, E.ON Nordic worked with stakeholders to find a solution that allows salmon and other fish to migrate past three hydropower plants in Sweden's Mörrumsån River, and E.ON US set aside more than 100 acres of ecologically sensitive land (wetlands and bottomland woods) as a nature reserve at its Trimble County Generating station.

Renewable energy power plants
The E.ON *2007 Corporate Responsibility Report* acknowledges that renewable energy sources are subject to criticism (such as biomass crowding out food production, and wind power affecting birds and sensitive marine systems). The report says that E.ON commissions scientific studies on the potential ecological consequences of offshore projects, and that the Group strives to operate and build its facilities in a way that has least possible impact on nature and local residents. However, neither specific environmental policies nor information on environmental performance were found for renewable energy power plants.

Environmental incidents
E.ON says that its environmental incidents are extremely rare. In the last three years, E.ON Group had only a single significant environmental incident that triggered a 24-hour reporting requirement. The incident involved dust emissions from a solid-waste combustion plant while it switched from waste-

[14] See www.eon-uk.com/about/biodiversity.aspx for more information
[15] See www.eon-us.com/environment_biodiv.asp for more information

fired to oil-fired operation in 2005. It also says that as in previous years, there were no International Nuclear Event Scale (INES) incidents at E.ON facilities in 2007.

F. Occupational health and safety

In 2007, E.ON approved a groupwide health and safety strategy and reestablished the Occupational Health and Safety department within the Corporate Responsibility (CR) division at Corporate Center. Business units also implemented the minimum standards for organizing occupational health and safety measures; in 2008, these standards will be summarized in a mandatory groupwide guideline. Occupational health and safety falls under the E.ON Health, Safety and Environment Management System (see "Sustainable development policies and programs", above).

E.ON states that its market units have had lower accident rates than regional competitors for many years. The Group's Lost-Time Injury Frequency index value has dropped year on year since 2004.

Accidents (2007)

- A natural gas pipeline ruptured and exploded in Germany; no one was injured
- Three Romanian customers died due to gas network leakages and incorrect handling of gas products
- 13 workplace fatalities, nine of which were employed by third-parties working on E.ON's behalf

G. Reporting on corporate responsibility

E.ON first published a corporate responsibility report in 2004. The 2007 *Corporate Responsibility Report*[16] is available on the corporate website (www.eon.com). Prepared according to Global Reporting Initiative standards, it covers all subsidiaries and power plants in which E.ON is a majority owner. However, very little actual data is provided, and there is no indication of performance compared to previous years. More detailed information and data are provided on the corporate website (www.eon.com/en/unternehmen/2028.jsp)

The E.ON UK *Corporate Responsibility Review 2007*[17] provides more detailed information on progress towards meeting set CR targets for this market unit. Reports are available online back to 2001.

E.ON Nordic has published a *Climate Balance Sheet* since 2004. The 2007 report[18] provides information on energy and heat production, CO_2 emissions, and carbon footprint, and contains some targets. E.ON Nordic has also published an environmental/corporate responsibility report since 1996. The *CSR Report 2006*[19] provides little concrete information.

No corporate responsibility reports were found for E.ON Energie, E.ON Ruhrgas, E.ON US, E.ON Italia, E.ON Espana, or E.ON Russia Power.

[16] www.eon.com/en/downloads/E.ON_CR_US.pdf
[17] http://www.eon-uk.com/images/CRReview2007.pdf
[18] http://www.eon.se/upload/eon.se/dokument/om_e.on/miljo/miljoredovisningar/EOCO0355_eng_RGB96_sfs.pdf
[19] http://www.eon.se/upload/eon.se_english/dokument/Reports/CSR/who_cares[1].pdf

Websites for all eleven market units have a section on environment and/or responsibility; these vary in the amount of detail provided.

Positive external views of E.ON's CSR policies and reports

- Global Reporting Initiative: gave the *E.ON 2007 Corporate Responsibility Report* an A+ rating
- Dow Jones Sustainability Rating: E.ON was listed in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) in 2007
- Accountability Rating[20]: in 2007 E.ON was ranked 16 amongst the Fortune Global 100, a rise of eight places compared to 2006 (and a rise of 49 places compared to 2005)
- Advanced Sustainable Performance Index: E.ON was entered into ASPI Eurozone® Index in 2007
- Storebrand[21]: Norwegian financial service provider Storebrand declared E.ON a "Best in Class" company in 2007 for its sustainability performance
- Good Company Ranking: E.ON ranked 37 in the 2006 and 2007 Good Company Ranking in "Manager Magazine", which assesses the performance of 120 of the largest European companies (a climb of 23 places compared to 2005)

[20] www.accountabilityrating.com/
[21] www.storebrand.no/site/stb.nsf/Enter/forsideenglish.html

III Media and stakeholder analysis

- Employee issues
- Other

Articles on issues that could receive negative press in the future

- New nuclear power stations
  E.ON is planning, or would like to plan, new nuclear power plants in several European countries, and is actively urging governments to go ahead with these.
- Other

B. Queries to watchdog, sustainabl

the E.ON-sponsored "national tree day" by planting thousands of trees on the proposed site for the new power plant. (www.greenpeace.org/international/news/Vattenfall-Eon-trees080319)

- A **2008 Greenpeace article** describes the trial of six Greenpeace activists accused of causing criminal damage to a smokestack at E.ON's Kingsnorth plant in the UK. The activists are arguing that is was lawful for them to damage the chimney in order to protect other property in Kent (where Kingsnorth is located) and around the world at the risk of much more serious damage from climate change caused to a large degree by coal-fired power stations. The activists called on Professor James Hansen, one of the world's leading climate scientists and Director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, to give evidence on the threat posed by Kingsnorth coal-fired power station to the world's climate. (www.greenpeace.org/international/news/climate-kingsnorth-trial050908)

- A **2008 WWF-Germany briefing paper, *Windfall profits of German electricity producers in the second phase of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (2008-2012)***, criticizes European power companies for receiving windfall profits under the EU's Emissions Trading Scheme, as they receive emission allowances for free, but pass the extra costs of CO_2 emissions on to customers. The report says that E.ON will earn about €11 billion in this way.
(www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/climate_change/publications/index.cfm?uNewsID=143383)

- A **2008 Friends of the Earth UK press release** responds to E.ON's price rises, saying "The shocking price hikes this summer are nothing short of a national disaster that will leave more than five million households unable to afford to heat their homes this winter."
(www.foe.co.uk/resource/press_releases/energyprice_210808.html)

- **Stopgreewash.org, a Greenpeace US campaign**, criticizes the American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity (ACCCE) for running a major PR campaign promoting clean coal as the solution to US energy independence, saying in reality they are a front group for an industry lobby aimed to keep dirty coal plants in existence. E.ON is a member of the ACCCE. (www.stopgreenwash.org/casestudy_abec)

- A **2007 Greenpeace article** describes activist actions at the Kingsnorth plant in the UK, saying that the new planned plant "would emit as much carbon dioxide as the world's 24 lowest emitting countries combined. Worse, it could keep pumping out emissions for another 50 years. And it will only be 45 percent efficient, in an age when power stations can reach 95 percent efficiency. E.ON, the German group behind the plan for the new coal plant, is Britain's single biggest greenhouse gas polluter."

- Three of E.ON's coal-fired power plants appear in **WWF's 2007 *Dirty Thirty*** ranking of the most polluting power stations in Europe. These are the Scholven plant in Germany (ranked #20) and the Ratcliffe and Kingsnorth plants in the UK (ranked #23 and #24, respectively; the Kingsnorth plant is slated for replacement).

- A **2006 Corporate Watch article** names E.ON as one European nuclear energy company funding the Nuclear Industry Association, the trade association for the UK's nuclear industry, which the article accuses as being central to a behind-the-scenes PR and lobbing campaign for new nuclear power stations in the UK. (www.corporatewatch.org/?lid=2735)

- A **2005 Greenpeace report, *Whose power is it anyway?***, says that E.ON:
  - is one of the most untransparent utilities in Europe, not telling customers the source (nuclear or fossil fuel) of more than 40% of their electricity (the electricity that E.ON buys)
  - is one company trying to delay nuclear power phaseouts in Germany, Belgium, Spain, Slovakia and Sweden by extending the lifetime of their existing nuclear power plants, even though operating ageing reactors is a serious risk for public health and safety
  - does not give its total CO_2 emissions in its 2003 Annual Report, just direct emissions from burning fossil fuels. It says that nuclear power plants also create indirect CO2 emissions of 30-40 grams per kilowatt hour from the fuel supply and equipment manufacture, but these emissions were not added to the company's overall CO2 emissions (the report accuses the other top 10 power companies in Europe of doing the same thing).
  - has a long track record of fighting energy efficiency and renewable energy. It says that "since the opening of Germany's electricity market in April 1998, E.ON has tried to shut down gas-fired high efficiency co-generation plants from small utilities and private investors by dumping prices."
  - has a long tradition of fighting against the most successful laws in Europe to phase-in renewable energy. It says "since the very beginning, the company, under the name PreußenElectra (Veba) and Bayernwerk (VIAG), has fought against the renewable energy law has a long 7(m,e m)8eanoing tast thetN. vturbinse

- A **2003 WWF report, *Impacts of Climate Policy on the Power Sector***, named E.ON as one of two European power companies most at risk from significant price increases for power production due to new regulations that make CO_2 emissions costly to polluters.
(www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/climate_change/news/index.cfm?uNewsID=9750)

- A **2003 Greenpeace report** says that E.ON and other power companies are using EU funds intended for the decommissioning of nuclear power plants to finance expansion.
(www.greenpeace.org/international/press/releases/greenpeace-calls-for-new-eu-ru)

No search results

- Greenwash Index (www.greenwashingindex.com/index.php)
- SustainAbility (www.sustainability.com)
- Ethical Corporation (www.ethicalcorp.com; several articles mention E.ON, but nothing specific is said)

IV Assessment of commitment to CSR

E.ON presents itself as a responsible and transparent company, concerned about, and actively working for, the environment, the climate, its employees, and the communities in which it has operations. However, without talking to anyone from E.ON or organizations more familiar with the Group (such as WWF, Greenpeace, or Friends of the Earth) it is difficult to properly assess E.ON's commitment to CSR. It is also too early to assess implementation of the Group's new CSR policies as these only came into effect in 2007.

While different subsidiaries, particularly E.ON UK, have made concrete environmental improvements (such as improving energy efficiency and reducing non-operational CO_2 emissions) and appear to be actively engaged in biodiversity conservation and social issues, there a few niggling points that could seem to question E.ON's commitment to transparency, the environment, and the climate:

- E.ON makes frequent reference to its investments in renewable energy sources. Nevertheless, renewables (excluding hydropower) are only planned to make up 7% the energy mix by 2015. It is impossible to judge targets for 2030 as renewables are put together with nuclear energy and hydropower to make up 50% of the planned CO_2-free energy mix. However, the E.ON Energie website says: "… the sun, wind, biomass and biogas still account for a rather small portion of electricity generated and this will not change in the future…" This is despite other groups, such as WWF[23], showing that renewables can mostly replace fossil fuels.

- E.ON reportedly said that new wind power plants need new coal-fired power stations as backup[24].

- Biomass and wind power, the two renewable energy sources in which E.ON is investing most, have various environmental impacts; however, no concrete policies were found for limiting these. No

[23] www.panda.org/news_facts/newsroom/news/index.cfm?uNewsID=102400
[24] news.scotsman.com/latestnews/Coal-backup-for-wind-power.4442417.jp

mention was found either of the World Commission on Dams[25] recommendations and guidelines for dams (although this may not be relevant if the Group is not planning to build new dams for hydropower).

- E.ON buys about half its electricity, but no information was found on energy sources for this, or policies for sourcing this electricity.

- E.ON also makes frequent reference to its target of reducing specific CO_2 emissions, saying on one webpage that this target goes "well beyond" the targets set by the Kyoto Protocol and the European Union[26]. However, this claim is a little disingenuous: E.ON's target will not actually reduce the Group's CO_2 emissions if generation goes up enough (the *2007 Corporate Responsibility Report* does acknowledge this), whereas the Kyoto Protocol and EU set targets for reducing absolute emissions. Also, one webpage[27] says that the target will be partly met through carbon offset credits, meaning that actual CO_2 emissions will not decrease at all.

- E.ON is strongly committed to nuclear power and new coal-fired power stations with carbon capture and storage, and is actively lobbying for, and investing in, new such power plants. Many environmental groups and others do not believe that either nuclear energy or new coal-fired power plants should play a role in the future energy mix, and that all existing plants should be decommissioned as they reach the end of their life and replaced with renewable energy plants. CCS has also been criticized for being unproven.

- E.ON provides information about its reductions to SO_2 and NO_x emissions, but does not indicate

court success in arguing that six activists had a lawful excuse for damaging the Kingsnorth power station in the UK in order to prevent the far greater damage from global warming. Demonstrations have also been made at other coal-fired power plants planned by E.ON. E.ON is also planning new nuclear power plants and lobbying for extending the life of Germany's nuclear power plants (which under current policy will be mostly decommissioned by 2020): it seems likely that various groups may protest against these. E.ON may also receive criticism for its promotion of carbon capture and storage, which many see as an unproven technology for reducing CO_2 emissions from coal-fired power plants.

There is also a risk for IUCN in engaging with E.ON on offshore wind developments. Several press articles cite difficulties with such projects, including their technical difficulties and costs. E.ON has reportedly already stopped two such developments, saying they will not be economically viable[29]. E.ON has also linked new wind farms with the need for new coal-fired power plants[30], and has reportedly tried to block wind development in Germany by 'grid blockades'(meaning that the wind turbine operators are forced to sign contracts which enables E.ON to shut down wind turbines in peak production and low demand situations)[31].

VI Methodology

The information in sections I and II was mostly taken from corporate sources: the corporate website (www.eon.com) and market unit websites (www.eon-energie.com; www.eon-ruhrgas.com; www.eon-uk.com; www.eon-us.com; www.eon.se; www.eon-russia.com; www.eon-espana.com; www.eon-italia.com); the E.ON 2007 *Corporate Responsibility Report*[32]; the E.ON UK *Corporate Responsibility Review 2007*[33]; the E.ON Nordic 2007 *Climate Balance Sheet*[34];

Internet searches
The following search engines were queried over the period of 2–11 September 2008:

- Google
- Google News

The following search terms were used:
EON; E.ON; E.ON coal; E.ON biomass; E.ON nuclear; E.ON offshore wind

Only results on the first ten pages of results were examined.

The following websites were searched using E.ON as a search term:

- WWF International (www.panda.org)
- Greenpeace International (www.greenpeace.org/international/)
- Friends of the Earth UK (www.foe.co.uk; the FOE US site was not searchable)
- www.covalence.ch
- www.corporatewatch.org

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- www.greenwashingindex.com/index.php
- www.sustainability.com
- www.ethicalcorp.com

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Prepared for IUCN by Emma Duncan
29 September 2008

- **E.ON UK gets ball rolling on biomass power station**
  E.ON UK submitted a scoping statement to build a £60m 25 MW biomass power station at Blackburn Meadows in Sheffield, which will burn a combination of recycled wood and specially grown crops such as willow and elephant grass.
  - Contractors Unlimited 2 August 2007 (www.contractorsunlimited.co.uk/news/070806-E.ON.shtml)
  (also reported elsewhere)

- **E.ON UK starts generating power at Steven's Croft biomass power station**
  E.ON UK started generating electricity for the first time at the UK's largest dedicated biomass power station at Steven's Croft in Lockerbie, Scotland.
  24/7 11 November 2007 (www.24-7pressrelease.com/press-release/eon-uk-starts-generating-power-at-stevens-croft-biomass-power-station-35875.php)

farms in the world at Horns Rev and Nysted (20% owned by E.ON).
- Cape Cod Today 5 December 2006 (www.capecodtoday.com/news550.htm)

Other

- **E.ON sends workers to Louisiana to help restore power**
  E.ON US sent more than 250 Kentucky-based employees to Louisiana to help utilities there restore power in the wake of Hurricane Gustav.
  - Bizjournals.com 2 September 2008 (www.bizjournals.com/louisville/stories/2008/09/01/daily12.html)

- **Case studies in sustainable development in the coal industry**
  A publication by the International Energy Agency (IEA) includes many case studies of E.ON operations.
  - www.iea.org/Textbase/papers/2006/CIAB_Case_Studies_2006.pdf

- **How carbon capture and storage (CCS) could make coal the fuel of the future**
  A positive article on CCS mentions E.ON's efforts.
  The Times Online 9 September 2008 (www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/science/article4710941.ece)

Negative articles

New coal-fired power plant at Kingsnorth, UK
E.ON is planning to demolish its coal-fire power plant at Kingsnorth and replace it with one that is 20% more efficient and built with the capacity to retrofit carbon capture and storage (CCS). The plant will be the first new coal-fire power plant to be built in the UK in nearly 24 years. A week-long "climate camp" protesting the new plant was held in August 2008, attracting around 1,000 protestors. Just afterwards, six Greenpeace activists arrested in 2007 for damage to a smokestack on the existing plant argued in court that they had a lawful excuse for damaging the power station in order to prevent the far greater damage from global warming. The jurors agreed and the activists were acquitted of causing criminal damage.

The plant has attracted media attention throughout the year, most recently due to the protests and court case. It has also been referred to in opinion editorials arguing against continued use of coal and uncertainties over carbon capture and storage.

Example articles:

- **Row over coal power station plan**
  Medway Council gave its approval to a planning application by E.ON UK to build two new cleaner coal units at Kingsnorth. Opponents say the move would be a serious setback to efforts to cut the UK's carbon emissions, with Greenpeace labeling it "dinosaur technology".
  - BBC 3 January 2008 (news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/7169105.stm)

- **Coal giant dictates government climate policy**
  Under the Freedom of Information Act, Greenpeace saw government documents showing that a single email from E.ON "destroyed a central pillar of the [UK] government's energy policy in just a few minutes". Greenpeace says E.ON sent an email to the UK government saying that business minister John Hutton "has no right to withhold approval" of the new Kingsnorth plant, and asking that carbon capture and storage not be included in conditions for building the plant. The email also said that carbon capture doesn't exist.

- **The stakes could not be higher. Everything hinges on stopping coal**
  Opinion editorial, based on the protests at the Kingsnorth power station.
  - The Guardian 5 August 2008
  (www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/aug/05/kingsnorthclimatecamp.climatechange)

- **Coal's future is safe, but what about the climate?**
  Article on coal and the climate, based on the protests at the Kingsnorth power station.
  - ABC 5 August 2008 (www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/08/05/2324886.htm)

- **CCS cannot justify unabated coal plants**
  Referring to E.ON's plan to make the new coal-fired power plant at Kingsnorth a carbon capture and storage demonstration project, the article quotes UK MPs from the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee as being disappointed by progress on CCS technology and saying that in the absence of mature technology, the potential for CSS should not be used as a way of silencing environmental concerns.
  - Low Carbon Economy 19 August 2008
  (www.lowcarboneconomy.com/community_content/_low_carbon_news/1641/ccs_cannot_justify_unabated_coal_plants)

- **Cleared: Jury decides that threat of global warming justifies breaking the law**
  Jurors accepted defense arguments that six Greenpeace activists had a "lawful excuse" to damage property at Kingsnorth power station to prevent even greater damage caused by climate change.
  - The Independent 11 September 2008 (www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/cleared-jury-decides-that-threat-of-global-warming-justifies-breaking-the-law-925561.html)

- **Windfall tax being blown off course**
  An article on the fuel poverty issue (see below) mentions that UK utilities are benefiting from windfall profits on the back of the European Union's emissions trading scheme. It says: "This was designed to reduce carbon emissions, not to enable the utilities to make a killing. The biggest scandal is that you and I are funding this windfall through higher utility bills."
  - The Observer 31 August 2008 (www.guardian.co.uk/business/2008/aug/31/utilities.energy)

- **Energy: How dirty is your power supplier?**
  An article on the coal vs. nuclear energy mix of the UK's power utilities (including E.ON) quotes Ecotricity as saying: "Buying existing green energy, which is what most 100% tariffs contain, does nothing at all to reduce CO_2 emissions or increase UK green energy capacity - you simply take something that already exists and have it for yourself. … Most 100% green tariffs are a con, because they tell you you'll reduce your carbon footprint etc, but don't tell you someone else's will go up as a direct result. Nothing really changes - it's just a redistribution of existing green sources."
  - The Guardian 16 August 2008 (www.guardian.co.uk/money/2008/aug/16/energy.householdbills)

- **Disclosing carbon emissions – do the numbers add up?**
  A small survey of company emissions data for four selected energy suppliers, including E.ON, and four electronics firms concludes that usable corporate emissions data is incomplete and of variable quality.
  Climate Change Corp - 21 August 2008 (www.climatechangecorp.com/content.asp?contentid=5570)

- **So, what misery does your pension pay for?**
  The Royal Bank of Scotland and other high-street banks including HSBC and Barclays are facing the possibility of a wave of consumer boycotts, following a report accusing RBS of helping to provide an estimated £8bn to E.ON and other companies utilizing coal over the past two years.
  news.scotsman.com 11 September 2008 (news.scotsman.com/opinion/So-what--misery-does.4394065.jp)

Nuclear energy

- An article about E.ON says that the Group is "repositioning nuclear as a green form of power". It also says that E.ON is engaged in a program to produce and promote teaching packs for schools, tied into the UK national curriculum for 14- to 16-year-olds. One activity encourages children to debate the motion: 'Our class believes that nuclear is the right choice to meet the UK's energy needs in the 21st century.' The teaching pack websiteprovides links to Greenpeace and coverage of the Chernobyl disaster, but also points students towards the nuclear industry's lobbying body, the World Nuclear Association.
  - Nuclear Spin (www.nuclearspin.org/index.php/Eon)

- **Nuclear power grab? Corporate lobbyists and MEPs working in tandem to spin nuclear energy as sustainable**
  An article critical of nuclear power discusses lobbying by European nuclear industry group, FORATOM, of which E.ON is a member, ahead of a 2006 EU Parliament vote on expanding nuclear power in Europe as means of reducing CO_2 emissions. It also says E.ON (and other energy companies) has lobbyists in the European Parliament.
  - Corporate Europe Observatory December 2006 (www.corporateeurope.org/docs/NuclearPowerGrab.pdf)

Offshore wind farms

- **E.ON and Dong Energy buy Shell's stake in large offshore wind farm**
  E.ON and Dong Energy agreed to buy Royal Dutch Shell's stake in London Array, one of the world's largest planned wind farms. While the article is generally positive, saying that the buyout averts the threat of the project being cancelled, it also says that Shell wanted to sell because rising costs made it unclear whether the 341-turbine wind farm in the Thames Estuary would be profitable. (Industry-wide cost inflation has raised the cost of the project to more than £2.5bn, well above the original estimates of £1.5bn three years ago.)
  - International Herald Tribune 21 July 2008 (www.iht.com/articles/2008/07/21/business/wind.php)

plants are necessary).
The Economist 29 November 2007 (www.economist.com/business/displaystory.cfm?story_id=10214740)

- **Jean-Hubert Martin discusses private-public partnerships**
  Jean-Hubert Martin, former director of the Museum Kunst Palast in Düsseldorf, Germany, says that Achim Middelschulte, cultural delegate of E.ON – with whom the museum had a partnership – directly interfered with museum programming, prevented several exhibitions from taking place, and managed to push through one "blockbuster" show -"Bonjour Russia" (2007)- which turned out to be a financial disaster for the institution.
  Artforum 18 August 2008 (www.artforum.com/news/mode=international&week=200834)

- **Power giant hits family business with £40,000 bill**
  E.ON sent a small, family-run Cornish pasty business with a £40,000 bill after realizing that it undercharged the business for eight years.
  - Times Online 31 August 2008 (business.timesonline.co.uk/tol/business/industry_sectors/utilities/article4641182.ece)

Articles on issues that could receive negative press in the future

New nuclear power stations
E.ON is planning, or would like to plan, new nuclear power plants in several European countries, and is actively urging governments to go ahead with these.

Example articles:

- **Britain must stand firm on nuclear power - E.ON**
  The head of E.ON UK said the British government must remain resolute in its backing for a new fleet of nuclear power stations despite the likelihood of a fresh legal challenge.
  - Reuters 30 January 2008 (www.reuters.com/article/companyNews/idUSL3022126620080130)

- **German utility prepares to build two nuclear power stations in UK**
  E.ON plans to build two nuclear power stations in the UK.
  - The Guardian 24 April 2008 (www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/apr/24/nuclear.utilities)
  (also reported elsewhere)

- **E.ON to build £4bn British nuclear power station**
  E.ON is drawing up plans to build a £4 billion nuclear power station beside the River Severn in Gloucestershire, UK.
  - The Times Online 11 September 2008
  (business.timesonline.co.uk/tol/business/industry_sectors/utilities/article4727457.ece)

- **Oldbury could be the home of a new nuclear power station**
  E.ON signed an agreement with the National Grid for a transmission connection at Oldbury, UK, meaning that a connection to the National Grid could be maintained long after the existing Oldbury Power Station shuts down and suggesting the site could be used for a new generation nuclear power station.
  - Gazette 10 September 2008
  (www.gazetteseries.co.uk/news/3662226.Oldbury_could_be_the_home_of_a_new_nuclear_power_station/)

- **E.ON eyes role in Italian return to nuclear**
  E.ON is interested in playing a role in developing nuclear power in Italy if the country bows to calls for a return to nuclear energy.
  - Reuters 10 September 2008 (in.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idINLA28365420080910)

- **E.ON chief urges retaining German nuclear plants**
  Wulf Bernotat, chairman of E.ON Energie, said that Germany can only deal with its commitment to reducing global warming gases and with soaring fuel costs by extending the working life of the country's nuclear plants. Under current policy, all but one of Germany's 17 nuclear power plants will be shutdown by 2020.
  Red Orbit 11 July 2008
  (www.redorbit.com/news/business/1473296/eon_chief_urges_retaining_german_nuclear_plants/index.html)

- **E.ON chief says may build nuclear plant in France**
  E.ON AG may build a nuclear power plant in France if it gets the chance.
  - Reuters 2 July 2008 (www.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKL0245959120080702)

- **German utility mulls European markets for new reactor build**
  Blog reporting that E.ON sent a letter of intent to the Romanian government stating its interest to participate in the construction of two new nuclear reactors in Cernavoda as a strategic investor, and is monitoring the Dutch and UK markets where nuclear power is being reconsidered as an option.
  NEI Nuclear Notes 28 June 2006 (neinuclearnotes.blogspot.com/2006/06/german-utility-mulls-european-markets.html)

Other

- **E.ON appeals against Midlothian wind farm rejection**
  E.ON lodged an appeal against the refusal of Midlothian council to grant planning permission for a wind farm of up to 45MW on a peat bog at Auchencorth Moss, UK. The planning application received objections from 2,400 members of the public, and a variety of organizations including the Scottish Wildlife Trust, local Community Councils, Pentland Hills Regional Park, and the Butterfly Conservation Society.
  - New Energy Focus 29 August 2008
  (newenergyfocus.com/do/ecco.py/view_item?listid=1&listcatid=32&listitemid=1633&section=)
  (also reported elsewhere)

- **Vattenfall says no date yet to restart two northern German nuclear reactors**
  Vattenfall AB is unable to say when it can put its two closed northern German nuclear reactors back into service. The two power plants are jointly operated with E.ON, and were disconnected from the grid after separate incidents in June 2007 related to the plants' power supplies.
  - Forbes.com 17 August 2008 (www.forbes.com/afxnewslimited/feeds/afx/2008/08/17/afx5331172.html)

- **Energy firms want wind farm billions**
  Energy groups are to demand billions of pounds in extra subsidies from the UK government to build the wind farms needed to hit the UK's environmental targets. The budget for the biggest scheme – a wind farm in the Thames Estuary, which is intended to generate up to one per cent of the UK's electricity and for which E.ON is a partner – has doubled to £2bn in the past two years.
  - thisismoney.co.uk 17 August 2008 (www.thisismoney.co.uk/investing-and-markets/article.html?in_article_id=450045&in_page_id=3&position=moretopstories)

- **Germany's E.ON wants to buy Iranian natural gas**
  E.ON is seeking a potential deal with Iran to buy liquid natural gas (LNG), as an alternative to Russian sources.
  - Spiegel Online 7 March 2007 (www.spiegel.de/international/0,1518,470353,00.html)

- **E.ON plans for Humber offshore windfarm, despite MoD objections**
  The UK’s Ministry of Defense has objected to the proposed Humber Gateway offshore wind farm over fears it could cause disruption to its radar coverage.
  - channelweb.co.uk 7 April 2008 (www.channelweb.co.uk/business-green/news/2213681/launches-plans-humber-offshore)