Press release

# Electricity tariffs unchanged for 2014 - innovative locally focused price-plan coming soon

**Romande Energie has announced that its electricity tariffs for 2014 will be unchanged relative to this year. In addition, a new price-plan in favour of local procurement will soon be unveiled. Next year customers will benefit from our longstanding efforts to keep expenses in check and improve efficiency across the regional power network - in contrast to forecasts by the Federation of Swiss Power Companies of an upward trend in nationwide electricity rates**.

*Morges, 30 August 2013*

We are delighted to announce that our electricity tariffs in 2014 will be unchanged relative to those currently charged, especially since the Federation of Swiss Power Companies has announced — in a press release on 27 August — that it expects an upward trend in Swiss tariffs next year. The new pricing schedule, which is being published today, enters into force on 1 January 2014.

Electricity tariffs are determined by several components: the cost of the power itself, use of the regional power network, use of the national VHV transmission grid, the cost of regulating power (system services), and taxes and duties.

**Efficient regional network keeps rates unchanged**

For yet another year we have stepped up efforts to inject efficiency into our running of the regional power network. Improved operating procedures and the new asset-management policy (governing investments in distribution infrastructure) will, for the fourth successive year, result in a reduction in this tariff component.

The lower regional network cost will benefit our customers directly, offsetting the rise in tariff components outside our control, namely: the increase in the price of regulating power (system services) charged by national grid operator Swissgrid SA; changes to the rate of interest earned on capital invested in power networks; and the rise in federal duty (from 0.45 ct to 0.60 ct per kWh) for financing compensatory feed-in remuneration — under the system introduced by the Confederation for promoting generation from renewable sources.

**Details of new price plan coming soon**

We are putting the finishing touches to a new price plan that we believe is in tune with our customers' hopes and expectations. Details will be unveiled in October. Tariffs published today are unaffected by this development.

Full details of our tariff schedule for 2014 will be available from 2 September at www.tarifs2014.ch.

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## Note to editorial desks

This press release is being issued outside the trading hours of the SIX Swiss Exchange as required by the SIX Listing Rules on ad hoc publicity.

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**Electricity tariffs for 2014** offered by power companies can be consulted by visiting www.prix-electricite.elcom.admin.ch

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The **price of electricity** is comprised of the following:
- Cost of power
- Network charges
- Taxes and duties charged by the Confederation, cantons and municipalities.

**Network charges** represent the cost for moving power from its point of generation to the ultimate point of consumption in addition to costs for regulating the system. There are three components:
- Regional grid usage fee, within the remit of Romande Energie
- Transmission fee for use of the VHV national grid, within the remit of Swissgrid SA
- Regulating power (system services), which also comes under Swissgrid SA

Price components that depend directly on Romande Energie (power and grid usage fee) account for slightly over 80% of the average consumer's electricity bill.

The remaining 20% - the transmission fee, regulating power, and taxes and duties - is collected by Romande Energie and passed along, as appropriate, to Swissgrid SA or to Confederation, cantons and municipalities.

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## Contact

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**Romande Energie Group at a glance**

Romande Energie Group is the leading electricity distributor in Western Switzerland. Through its subsidiary Romande Energie Commerce, it supplies more than 300,000 end-customers directly (representing a catchment population of over 500,000 people) in over 300 municipalities in the cantons of Vaud, Valais, Fribourg and Geneva. Its core businesses are the **production, distribution** and **marketing** of electricity. The Group's priorities are to provide customers with high-quality services and guarantee reliable, competitively priced electricity supplies on a long-term basis; to expand its own-power production by investing primarily in new renewable energy sources; and to promote innovative solutions in the field of energy efficiency.

**For more information on Romande Energie Group visit www.romande-energie.ch**