

Facts 2008

Energy and Water Resources in Norway

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Foreword

This presentation of energy and water resources in Norway is an annual publication from the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy. Stationary energy supply and central aspects of the management of water resources are described in this publication.

Modern societies are becoming increasingly dependent on reliable access to energy. Norway has a generous supply of crude oil, natural gas, water, wind and bioenergy. This wealth of energy is important for welfare in Norway.

This publication provides an overview of the energy resources, management, research, production, transport, trade and use of energy, with a particular focus on hydropower. It also contains a review of the legislative framework that regulates energy supply in mainland Norway, and a description of the international collaboration in this area. The purpose of the booklet is to present the facts about energy in Norway.

Facts 2008 also presents the main laws and regulations that define the framework for management of the resources. These are: the Energy Act, the Water Resources Act, the Industrial Licensing Act and the Watercourse Regulation Act.

All production, transport and use of energy have an impact on the environment. Great emphasis is placed on environmental aspects when decisions are made in the energy area. In this publication, the environmental perspectives are discussed in connection with the various different topics.

Each year, one area of special interest is presented in more detail in an appendix. This year, we have decided to review the Government's ongoing work developing a comprehensive research and development (R&D) strategy for the energy sector – Energi21. The overriding goal of this strategy is to increase



value creation by investing in R&D and new technology.

Every effort has been made to present the most up-to-date statistics available. In most areas, the figures presented here are for 2007.

The North Sea oil and gas operations are presented in a separate publication (see the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy's website: www.oed.dep.no).

This edition went to press on 26 September 2008.

Best regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terje Riis-Johansen". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Terje Riis-Johansen

Minister of Petroleum and Energy



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