



Polish Climate Coalition

PRESS RELEASE

New Review Refutes Polish Electricity Association Climate Report

Warsaw, 19 November, 2008. A new review demonstrates that the Polish government is basing its climate position on a report which is biased and incomplete.

The controversial 2030 EnergSys report, commissioned by the Polish Electricity Association, has been widely cited to support claims that the EU's climate package will be too demanding on Poland's economy. But a detailed review published today by the highly-reputed **Gdańsk Institute for Market Economics** concludes that the EnergSys report *exaggerates* the economic costs of climate action, and *ignores* the economic benefits.

Over the last six months the Polish government has relied heavily upon the industry-funded EnergSys report in its opposition to the EU's climate package. Driven by the study's skewed conclusions, the Polish government is threatening to derail the chances of a European climate deal next month. But a review of the report's recently published data concludes that the report contains many significant omissions and inaccuracies.

The Gdansk Institute review finds that the EnergSys report *overestimates* the increase in electricity prices and energy supply costs and its impact upon the economy. The report wrongly assumes that the electricity sector alone would need to fulfil all of Poland's 15% renewables targets, a misleading assumption which distorts the predicted electricity costs and ignores the huge potential of cheap biomass in helping Poland to achieve CO2 reductions. The report also *disregards* the potential of energy efficiency for CO2 emission reduction.

Today's review highlights the *positive* impact of climate change measures which are completely ignored within the EnergSys report. For example, investing the profits from the auctioning system could stimulate additional Polish GDP growth.

Dr Andrzej Kassenberg, from the Polish Institute for Sustainable Development, stated,

'This analysis confirms that the government has been misled by seriously distorted data which exaggerates the economic impact on Polish businesses and consumers. Now that we can examine the full data, it is clear that the EnergSys report is a one-sided misrepresentation of the impact of climate change policies, rather than a balanced assessment.'

The full report from the Gdańsk Institute for Market Economics is available from the Polish Climate Coalition.

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The Gdańsk Institute for Market Economics (GIME) is a non-governmental independent scientific research institution dealing with the economy and government policy. The mission of the GIME is to conduct research and formulate useful recommendations for government policy, to provide independent assessments of the economy for the business sector and public opinion. The GIME is one of the most prestigious think tanks in Poland. It deals with economic and development issues at the national and international levels, combined with a regional perspective. <http://www.ibngr.edu.pl/english/instytut-eng.htm>

The Polish Climate Coalition is an association of nongovernmental organisations, mainly environmental ones, which are interested in advocacy on global climate protection. The main goals of the Coalition are to initiate and support activities aimed at the establishment and implementation of active climate policy in Poland, and also to constantly evaluate its course. <http://www.koalicjaklimatyczna.org>