

Ireland's Single National Market launched

European Union Commissioner Andres Piebalgs has launched the Single Electricity Market in Belfast, together with Northern Irish Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment Nigel Dodds and Irish Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources Eamon Ryan. Commissioner Piebalgs says: "The Single Electricity Market is important not only for the island of Ireland, but also for the EU. This is a significant contribution to the construction of the internal energy market. A regional initiative like SEM deserves to be widely copied. In this way, a European grid will gradually take form, and with it, a European Energy policy." The SEM, agreed in 2004, is part of the All-Island project and includes common arrangements for gas, security of supply and sustainable energy measures, such as energy efficiency and managing consumer demand. From 1 November 2007, around 2.5 million electricity customers can look forward to long term benefits from a single competitive, sustainable and reliable market in wholesale electricity, run and regulated on an all-island basis. More than €1.85

[Source essa news]