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Press Release

Bahía de Bizkaia Electricidad obtains ISO 14001 environmental certification

Bahía de Bizkaia Electricidad (BBE), an 800 MW combined cycle power station to generate electricity, has been awarded the UNE-EN ISO 14001:1996 certificate by AENOR for its Environmental Management Systems.

Bahía de Bizkaia Electricidad belongs to four shareholding partners: BP, Ente Vasco de la Energía (EVE), Iberdrola and Repsol YPF, who each hold a 25% stake. In August 2003, BBE came into commercial operation and in practically little more than a year it has become the first independent combined cycle power station operator in the Spanish State to obtain the UNE-EN ISO 14001:1996 certificate for its Environmental Management Systems.

If this process is important in other companies, it proves to be of extraordinary interest in the case of BBE, since it performs its electricity generation activity within the bounds of environmental management, with a clear vocation of company commitment to respect for the Environment. In order to obtain this certificate, the company is obliged not only to comply with a series of previously established requirements and principles, which allow continuous improvement to be achieved throughout time, but also to demonstrate this with a view to the exterior by means of audits by the AENOR certifying body, which took place on 15 and 16 November 2004 last.

The UNE-EN ISO 14001:1996 standard for Environmental Management Systems means that the company constantly monitors all aspects of its activity, thereby ensuring that its final product, the electricity generated, is obtained with the most absolute respect for the environment, as well as verifying fulfilment of all the applicable regulations and implementing a more efficient environmental protection policy in all its operations, and so making it possible to maintain and increase the trust of employees, suppliers and society in general.

Bahía de Bizkaia Electricidad favours a stable electrical supply and has become a decisive factor in improving the competitiveness of the Basque economy, and an important factor for supply diversification for the entire Atlantic Arc. The four partners in Bahía de Bizkaia are well known in the energy sector. BP is one of the largest companies in the world in energy and chemical related activities; EVE is the public body appointed by the Basque Government to develop the Basque energy policy; Iberdrola is one of the two most important electrical companies in Spain and Repsol-YPF is the leading Spanish petrol, oil and fuel supply company.

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