

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**Entrepreneurs are fighting against an illogical law**

*The ratification of the bill could liquidate the business of producing electricity from certain renewable energy sources (RES). Entrepreneurs in the area of solar and wind power have joined forces and in August 8th 2010 sent a bill analysis to the Legislative Council of the Czech Government drawing attention to its discrepancy with European Union law. At the same time they appealed to the Legislative Council of the Czech Government to return the bill to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce of the Czech Republic.*

Legal adviser of the group of entrepreneurs, Jakub Hájek of Glatzova & Co., says about the bill: "The proposed legislation goes against the priority objectives of the EU's energy and environmental policy. This legislation would replace the existing system of support with an inefficient, discriminatory and non-transparent regime. The bill may ultimately jeopardise the implementation of CR commitments in the field of RES development in the European Union." Neela Winkelmann - Heyrovská, consultant in the field of promoting use of RES and consultant for the group of entrepreneurs, adds: "If adopted, the bill will be priority connected and support "dirty" energy sources instead of RES. The bill allows selective support or even eliminates some sources of RES. This is contrary to EU law. It is evident that this tool has been compromised mainly against solar and wind energy. "

The group has been cooperating with associations of entrepreneurs in manufacturing of energy from wind and sun (ČSVE and CZEPHO). Their representatives have criticised the potential economic impact of the standards. "The liquidation of industry, which has created several thousands of jobs and generates an annual turnover of tens of billions of Czech crowns is at stake. While in the developed European countries, even in times of economic crisis, the production of electricity from renewable energy sources has continued to grow," says Zuzana Musilová, general secretary of Czech Photovoltaic Industry Association. At the end of June this year 8,800 solar power plants were in operation in the CR with a total of installed power 575.47 MW. This field employs about four to five thousand people. The field of wind energy employs over 2000 people. Development of the field has been slowing due to obstacles in the permitting process in the past 3 years. "We are very concerned about the bill, which will mean definitely put an end to the field of wind energy. We have submitted our comments on the bill. But they have not been taken into consideration in the latest version of law submitted to the Legislative Council of the Government. This is unacceptable for us," adds Michal Janeček, President of the Czech Society for Wind Energy. This initiative against the bill is not the first act of the group of entrepreneurs. Their first was a complaint to the European Commission concerning RES violations by the Czech Republic. The Commission is currently investigating whether the Czech Republic has proceeded in accordance with that directive.

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