



Press release
August 31st, 2010

BNP Paribas Clean Energy Partners wind farm investment in Ireland: Irish wind market attractive for infrastructure investments

The fund managed by BNP Paribas Clean Energy Partners GP Ltd. has acquired 100% of Gortahile Windfarm Ltd., which owns and operates a 20 megawatt wind farm in Co. Laois, from ABO Wind Ireland Ltd. The Gortahile Windfarm began commercial operation at the end of August 2010. It is forecast to produce circa. 70 GWh of electricity per year, enough to meet the annual needs of over 11,200 households.

"This acquisition represents the cornerstone of a larger portfolio that we intend to build in Ireland," said Joost Bergsma, CEO of the fund. "Ireland is a very attractive renewables market for financial investors because of its strong wind regime, its robust REFIT support policy, and its commitment to achieving its 2020 renewable energy target."

As part of its geographically diversified investment portfolio, the team aims to acquire additional assets of wind generation capacity in Ireland over the course of its investment period. "We are securing a deep pipeline of projects with a number of developers and owners to enable us achieve our target investment size in Ireland," says Francesco Cacciabue, CFO and Investment Director. "We target both operational wind farms and wind farms under construction."

The Gortahile Windfarm acquisition is the first in a partnership agreement between BNP Paribas Clean Energy Partners GP Ltd. and ABO Wind, in which the parties have agreed to transact 50 megawatts of generation capacity over the next 16 months.

ABO Wind is one of Europe's most experienced wind energy developers. With interests in Germany, France, Spain, Ireland, United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Belgium and Argentina, the company has been successfully developing, constructing and maintaining commercial wind farms of 400 MW-rated capacity for almost 15 years. Currently 150 employees work for ABO Wind in these countries.



Press contacts:

BNP Paribas Investment Partners

Sarah Marteleur
+32 (0) 2 274 84 28

sarah.marteleur@bnpparibas.com

Quill PR

Emma Baldock
+44 (0)20 7758 2237

emma@quillpr.com

BNP Paribas Clean Energy Partners

BNP Paribas Clean Energy Partners invests in construction and operational clean energy infrastructure assets in on-shore wind, solar photovoltaic biomass and small scale hydro power generation in Europe. The fund is managed by a dedicated, international and highly focused management team, drawn from a range of backgrounds within the renewable energy and financial fields. The target fund size of EUR 450 million will enable the fund to invest in a diversified portfolio of around 20 assets with proven technologies in primarily European economies, enabling the investment team to manage risk while maximising returns. Biomass power generation will account for up to 20% of the portfolio. To date the fund has raised around EUR 250 million, including commitments from market-leading institutional investors.

BNP Paribas Investment Partners

BNP Paribas Investment Partners is the dedicated asset management business line of the BNP Paribas Group. BNP Paribas Investment Partners offers a full range of investment management services to institutional and retail clients around the world. Central to the way we work is the concept of partnership – both in terms of how we behave as a family of companies and our relationships with our clients. Around 1,000 investment professionals work across our network of some 60 investment centres, each of which is a specialist in a particular asset class or type of product. With total assets under management of EUR 533 billion as of 30 June 2010, BNP Paribas Investment Partners is the third-largest asset manager in Europe and the ninth-largest in the world*.

On April 1 2010, the operations of Fortis Investments were merged with those of BNP Paribas Investment Partners. Fortis Investments' investment experts and international locations were a natural and complementary fit with BNP Paribas Investments Partners, whose flexible partnership model has proven successful in integrating new expertise in the past. Together, our combined company provides clients with an even broader range of investment solutions and even better client service than before.

* Source: Based on the IPE Top 400, July 2010 (figures as at 31 December 2009)

For further information, please visit www.bnpparibas-ip.com

