

Roundtable report – FRANCE

1-2 October 2007 SLT

IEA, Paris

- 1) Since the election of Mr Nicolas Sarkozy as President of the French republic on 6 May 2007, energy policy comes under the authority of Mr Jean-Louis Borloo, Minister of Ecology, sustainable Development and sustainable Town & Country Planning. Mr Borloo holds the rank of "State Minister", i.e. number two in the Government, just below the Prime Minister. This Ministry is in charge of energy policy, environmental policy, building, transport, town & country planning. It is a large Ministry which has been created to take up the challenge of the fight against climate change and other environmental problems. However some issues of the French energy policy have to be dealt in liaison with other Ministries, which has been the case with the fusion of Gaz de France and Suez (see www.equipement.gouv.fr/article.php3?id_article=2415 or http://www.minefe.gouv.fr/discours-presse/discours-communiques_finances.php?type=communiqu&id=693&rub=1.)
- 2) Since the 1st July 2007, the French markets of electricity and gas are fully open in the domestic and professional sectors, according to the European directives. The French Government has set up a web site to inform all consumers. See www.energie-info.fr.
- 3) The French Government has launched a wide debate at national and local levels on environment issues, including a thematic on "Fighting against climate change and controlling energy demand". Proposals for policies and measures should be announced by the end of October. All details are available on www.legrenelle-environnement.fr