

# **Critical Juncture - Energy Investments in South East Europe**

**Piraeus Clean Energy Fund** 

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# **Interesting Time for the Energy Sector**

Four important global trends impacting the sector

**Continued Growth in Energy Demand** 

**Continued Economic and Financial Uncertainty** 

**Increasing Environmental Pressures** 

**Technology Development** 





# ...but Specific Challenges exist in SE Europe

#### **Recent Headlines**

**Greece to Raise Clean-Energy Taxes to Erase Deficit in Industry** 

(May 21, 2013)

Romania Solar Installs to Plummet on Subsidy Cut (Apr 25, 2013)

**Greek Operator LAGIE Projects Less Renewable Capacity and More Deficit in 2013 and 2014**(Feb 13, 2013)

**Bulgaria to Suspend Up to 40% of Wind, Solar Power Capacity** (Mar 27, 2013)

Romania to Cut in Half Clean-Energy Subsidies Paid by Consumers (Apr 2, 2013)

- Regulatory environment is very unstable
- Public and political support for subsidizing RES investments is greatly reduced
- Foreign investors are hesitant



## **Implications and Issues**



- Lock-in risk of long-term lock-in of expensive technologies or high-carbon technologies
- Local focus reduced interest in interconnection of networks

 Risk aversion – too little support for new technologies

Long term perspective must be kept



## Financing will be Difficult

### **Market Uncertain and Changing**

- Financing market has fundamentally changed
  - Equity has bigger role
  - Foreign capital needs to be attracted
  - Alternate sources including vendor financing and multilaterals will be critical
- Regulatory and support mechanisms can not be relied on

Focus should be on the best projects (technical, financially, counterparty, and risk)

Not all projects will be built



## However, still possible to build project

#### **Projects still being built**

Greece: 800 MW added in Q1 2013

Romania: forecasts for up to 600 MW 2013

# Significant investments being made

> 1000 mn EUR invested on these projects completed in the first quarter in Greece

# Non-traditional finance being used

- Vendor finance
- Manufacturer investments
- 100% equity
- Multilateral and export credit agencies



Source: Energia.gr

# Opportunities Lie Below the Surface - How We Are Looking At the Market



### **General Requirements**

- Strong Fundamentals (economic, technical)
- Strong and experienced counter-parties and partners
- Financing support from project sponsors or manufacturers

### **Project Types**

- Projects that are financially viable without government support
- Distressed operating assets
- Cleantech
  - Waste / recycling
  - Water
  - Smart grid
- Energy Efficiency



# Thank you

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