

FiB – Bioenergy Research is published with support from Denmark's Energy Research Programme. The newsletter, which is free of charge, is published six times a year both in a Danish and an English version. Both versions can be downloaded from the Internet at the following homepage: www.biopress.dk

The Danish version of the newsletter is also available in a printed version. Further copies of the Danish version can be ordered from BioPress, via the following e-mail address: biopress@biopress.dk, or telephone nr +45 8617 8507.

Editor responsible:
Torben Skøtt

ISSN: 1604-6358

Production:
BioPress
Vestre Skovvej 8
DK-8240 Risskov
Denmark
Telephone +45 8617 8507
E-mail: biopress@biopress.dk
Homepage: www.biopress.dk

Photo on the front page:
Torben Skøtt and
TK Energy

Reproduction of articles or illustrations has to be accepted by BioPress. It is allowed to quote articles if the source is clearly indicated.

Next issue:
– to be published in the middle of Marts 2009. The deadline for articles is 15 February 2009.

Historical lift for energy research



photo: torben skøtt/biopress

At the beginning of November, the negotiations about the globalisation funds fell into place. This means that DKK 750 million will be allocated for energy research and development in 2009.

– This is a historically large amount. That much money has never been allocated for energy research before. We have doubled the funds in four years, says the Danish minister for climate and energy, Connie Hedegaard, about the DKK 750 million, of which DKK 43 million are earmarked for climate research.

The responsibility for the grant lies with the settlement parties behind the globalisation funds. This means the Danish government and the parties Dansk Folkeparti, Socialdemokratiet and De Radikale. Together, they have decided that the amount for energy research should increase to DKK one billion in 2010.

– The green technologies are the growth areas of the future, which will create jobs, growth and development in Denmark. But this kind of development does not come from the market alone: The state has to help make sure that the best and most viable technologies are explored, de-

veloped and tested, so that they can overcome the transition from idea to market. That is the reason why it is so vital that we prioritise money for research and development, says the Danish minister for climate and energy, Connie Hedegaard (K).

Throughout recent years, the export of Danish energy technology to other countries has been a great success. For instance, technology worth DKK 52 billion was exported in 2007. That is 13 percent more than the year before and ten times more than the growth in the rest of the merchandise export - which only rose by 1.3 percent.

The agreement to spend DKK 750 million on energy and climate research in 2009 is welcomed by many, but several organisations point out that it is far from enough. In a joint press release, the Confederation of Danish Industry, the Danish Metalworkers Union, the Danish energy association and the Danish Society of Engineers have thus asked the politicians to allocate DKK four billion for this area in the year 2020. This is necessary, according to the four organisations, if Denmark is to be able to continue developing its sustainable energy system and reduce the emission of climate gases. TS