

## Press Release

### EnergyVille and N-SIDE join forces for a smart and flexible energy transition

**Genk - On Friday 9th December 2016, N-SIDE, leading smart-grid solution provider and EnergyVille, the top Belgian energy research institute, signed a strategic partnership to combine the best-of expertise on Energy Flexibility Optimization for Markets and Grid Operation. This partnership is building the bridge between research and hands-on implementation and will bring to the market key innovative solutions for a successful energy transition.**

Policy makers have set ambitious objectives in terms of renewables integration and electrical mobility as shown by the recent Flemish and Walloon Climate plans and World COP21 targets. The increasing share of renewables in the energy mix poses challenges to the power system, the recent price peaks on the Belgian electricity market due to scarcity and high imbalance prices, as well as periods of negative electricity prices in certain European countries illustrate a growing need for flexibility in the power system. In this current revolution faced by the energy world, innovative optimization solutions are more than ever needed. A more agile management of the power grids, a more flexible way to consume and produce electricity and the development of new business models to leverage renewable energy sources are key elements to guarantee security of energy supply, enterprise competitiveness and protection of our environment.

EnergyVille, a research institute focusing on sustainable energy and intelligent energy systems, and N-SIDE, expert in electricity markets and energy flexibility optimization, are determined to find an answer to these urgent, growing needs. "The potential impact of this partnership cannot be underestimated", according to the COO of EnergyVille, Bert Gysen, "By cooperating with N-SIDE, we create an innovative win-win situation which combines our complementary strengths and competences in the field of electricity markets, energy flexibility, electric mobility and distributed energy sources, DES".

With EnergyVille being the excellence pole for energy research in Flanders and N-SIDE being at the core of many innovative projects in Wallonia, this partnership combines Belgium's best expertise in Electricity Market and Industrial Flexibility with major impacts on both national and international level. "This partnership will also secure coordination and collaboration on key energy transition projects in Belgium", commented Jacques Parlongue, CEO of N-SIDE.

Together, the partners will market unique innovative solutions covering the new era of opportunities offered by the energy transition: electric mobility, Demand Response, micro-grids, energy storage to name a few. "This partnership combines the expertise and disruptive technology to tackle some of the critical energy transition challenges", concluded Jacques Parlongue.

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## **N-SIDE**

N-SIDE develops, markets and implements innovative decision-aid solutions based on state-of-the-art advanced analytics and optimization methods.

Headquartered in Louvain-la-Neuve and with a team of more than 50 consultants and developers, N-SIDE provides tailored consulting services and solutions to large companies in various sectors (e.g. pharmaceutical, industrial and energy).

N-SIDE presents a strong expertise on the design, modeling and optimization of electricity markets in particular with the development of Euphemia, the coupling algorithm of European day-ahead markets, used every day to compute the spot electricity prices in 23 European countries.

By combining expertise on electricity markets and on industrial processes, N-SIDE has developed a strong activity on demand response by helping large industrial sites to optimally leverage their energy flexibility.

N-SIDE is also at the core of many energy transition projects in Europe and Wallonia on energy flexibility, micro-grids, green hydrogen and electric-mobility.

- More information: [www.n-side.com/](http://www.n-side.com/)

## **EnergyVille**

EnergyVille is an association of the Flemish research institutes KU Leuven and VITO in the field of sustainable energy and intelligent energy systems. Our researchers provide expertise to industry and public authorities on different areas: energy-efficient buildings and districts, and intelligent energy networks (including district heating and cooling), energy storage, energy markets, demand response and smart grids for a sustainable urban environment.

One of the objectives of EnergyVille is to become one of the top five European institutes in innovative energy research. In this context, the center was embedded in major national and

international networks right from the start. It covers research, development, training and innovative industrial activities under one name and in close collaboration with local, regional and international partners.

EnergyVille aims to be a driving force in the Thor science park in Genk in the areas of research, business development and employment creation. The research center is supported by the city of Genk, the Flemish Government, LRM, POM Limburg and the European structural funds.

- More information: [www.energyville.be](http://www.energyville.be)