# **CEZ GROUP BRIEF REPORT FOR H1 2008**

NON-AUDITED, CONSOLIDATED RESULTS

IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (IFRS)

## **Highlights**

## Prague, 14 August 2008

- Net income rose by CZK 7.9 billion to CZK 29.0 billion (+37.8%).
- EBITDA was up CZK 10.4 billion to CZK 48.6 billion (+27.3%).
- A consortium consisting of ČEZ, a. s. and a Turkish partner won an auction for the Turkish distribution company Sedaş.
- ČEZ, a. s. to cancel 54.2 million of its shares, reducing the basic capital by CZK 5.4 billion.

		As of June 30, or 6		
Key Figures	Units	months ended June 30, 2008	months ended June 30, 2007	Index 08/07
Generation of electricity (gross)	GWh	35,069	36,066	97.2%
Installed capacity	MW	14,288	14,392	99.3%
Sales of electricity*)	GWh	38,700	39,415	98.2%
Sales of heat	TJ	8,120	6,993	116.1%
Revenues	CZK millions	90,421	83,162	108.7%
Operating expenses (excl. depreciation & amortization)	CZK millions	-41,868	-45,008	93.0%
EBITDA	CZK millions	48,553	38,154	127.3%
- Central Europe segment	CZK millions	46,648	36,128	129.1%
- Southeastern Europe segment	CZK millions	1,905	2,026	94.0%
Depreciation and amortization	CZK millions	-10,806	-10,831	99.8%
Operating income (EBIT)	CZK millions	37,747	27,323	138.2%
Net income	CZK millions	28,958	21,011	137.8%
Return on equity (ROE), net** <sup>)</sup>	%	27.6	17.2	160.2%
Price/earnings ratio (P/E)**)	1	14.5	19.6	73.9%
Net debt / EBITDA**)	1	0.9	0.3	>200%
Net debt / equity	%	44.2	9.2	>200%
Capital expenditure (CAPEX)	CZK millions	-13,773	-11,020	125.0%
Investments	CZK millions	-15,615	-2,434	>200%
Operating cash flows	CZK millions	27,329	32,981	82.9%
Employee head count	persons	29,093	30,652	94.9%

\*) sales to end customers + sales to cover grid losses + wholesale surplus/deficit \*\*) 12 month sliding

# **Revenues, Expenses, Income**

In year-on-year terms, CEZ Group net income increased by CZK 7.9 billion (+37.8%) and EBITDA was up CZK 10.4 billion (+27.3%). The principal factor was growth in the gross margin, by CZK 11.4 billion. The results for the first half were also boosted by one-off items such as the clearing of a provision for emission allowances created in 2007 and gains on electricity derivative contracts in 2008, which peaked at mid-year together with electricity prices. Other operating expenses were under control, edging upward by CZK 1.0 billion. The biggest driver of EBITDA was the Power Production & Trading segment in Central Europe, which saw year-on-year growth of 35% in this indicator on higher production in nuclear plants and higher wholesale prices. The Distribution & Sale segment in Central Europe also saw its EBITDA rise, by 15%, primarily on growth in volumes distributed to end customers.

The growth in EBITDA was negatively affected by a CZK 0.8 billion decline in the financial result. Here, the principal influences were higher sales of short-term securities in 2007 as CEZ Group divested several smaller, non-core companies, and higher interest expenses due to greater average indebtedness resulting from rising investments and share repurchasing. The year-on-year growth in income tax resulting from the income growth reduced net income by another CZK 1.7 billion.

#### **Cash Flows**

Net cash provided by **operating activity**, at CZK 27.3 billion, was down CZK 5.7 billion (-17.3%) year-on-year, due in particular to a CZK 11.4 billion increase in working capital mainly due to increase in the balance of receivables and liabilities from derivative operations and introduction of margins on the energy exchange. Another reason was a CZK 4.6 billion increase in advance income tax payments, based on the growth in net income in 2006. This was partially offset by a CZK 9.6 billion increase in before-tax income.

Cash used in **investing activity**, at CZK 31.6 billion, was up CZK 12.8 billion (+68.1%) year-on-year. One major cash outlay in this area in 2008 was the CZK 15.0 billion financial investment in MOL company.

Cash provided by **financing activity** totaled CZK 1.8 billion, up CZK 17.9 billion year-on-year, due primarily to higher borrowing to finance increased investing by CEZ Group.

#### **Capital Expenditures**

The total amount invested in plant renewal in H1 2008 was CZK 4.4 billion. Equipment installation and construction work continued on the Tušimice II Power Station (4 x 200 MW) retrofit project, while on the Prunéřov II Power Station (3 x 250 MW) retrofit an EIA was submitted for an opinion, surveying work continued, and RFP documentation was prepared. On the project for a new 660 MW plant in Ledvice, the building permit for Phase 4 (construction of the new plant proper) entered into legal force and work began on site preparation and reconstruction of the office building. At Počerady Power Station, engineering plans for a new cogeneration plant were completed. RFP documentation for tenders is being prepared.

Capital expenditures in **nuclear plants** in H1 2008 reached CZK 2.3 billion. On Unit 2 of Dukovany Nuclear Power Station, renovation of the safety I & C system was completed and low-pressure turbine components were replaced with new, more efficient counterparts. Now, each of the four reactor units has a generating capacity of 456 MW. At Temelín Nuclear Power Station, work continued to prepare the spent fuel storage facility and upgrade high-pressure components of the 1,000 MW turboaggregate.

Capital spending in the distribution grid focused on construction of new substations and power lines and renovation of existing ones. The biggest projects were as follows: a new 110 kV power line Mírovka – Hlinsko in the Czech Republic, renovation and construction of medium- and low-voltage substation equipment in Bulgaria, and upgrade of a 110/20 kV switching station in downtown Craiova, Romania.

# **Trading in Electricity and Emission Allowances**

The 1st half of 2008 saw electricity demand in the Czech Republic grow by 4.2% in absolute terms, or 3.0% after adjustment for weather variations. Growth was most pronounced in the retail commercial segment (+9.1%), followed by the wholesale segment (+3.7%), while households consumed 2.7% more electricity than in the same period of last year.

The entire second quarter was characterized by continuous growth in prices of most commodities, to new record levels.

Electricity prices were very strong, moving inexorably upward to new peak levels. The extreme growth seen in prices of electricity products on the long end of the forward curve was related to similar development in the market for fuels in general, and crude oil in particular. The latter grew the fastest of all, influencing the entire market. In the second half of June, electricity prices jumped dramatically and by the end of the month they had risen by over 20%. (On June 30th, Cal-09 closed at 88.3 EUR/MWh.) The cause is the same as before: the bullish mood in the market for fuels, crude oil and coal in particular, both of which set one new price record after another. At the end of June, the benchmark crude oil contract, Brent 12M, was trading for 143.75 USD/bl and Coal API2 Cal-09 was at 212 USD/t.

The strength in long-term electricity contracts was mirrored in the price of emission allowances. The main driver was crude oil (gas), whose price rose even faster than coal, driving up the switching price, i.e. the emission allowance price at which it would be cost effective to switch from coal to gas to generate electricity.

Playing a significant role on the long end of the FWD curve was the new, 100% auction based method for allocating emission allowances in NAP III, for which the market is already preparing itself by stockpiling allowances from NAP II. As a result, prices of emission allowances reached two-year highs at the end of the quarter.

# Central Europe (CE)

Central Europe (CE)		Consolidated H1 2008 H1 2007		Power Producti	on & Trading	Distributio	on & Sale	Min	ing	Other		
				H1 2008	H1 2007	H1 2008	H1 2007	H1 2008	H1 2007	H1 2008	H1 2007	
Sales other than intersegment												
sales	CZK millions	77,191	69,719	34,409	33,584	38,776	33,613	1,960	1,721	2,290	903	
Intersegment sales	CZK millions	244	102	24,534	19,958	1,678	1,414	3,320	3,381	12,167	8,984	
Total revenues	CZK millions	77,435	69,821	58,943	53,542	40,454	35,027	5,280	5,102	14,457	9,887	
EBITDA	CZK millions	46,648	36,128	36,275	26,822	4,672	4,069	2,617	2,677	3,084	2,558	
EBIT	CZK millions	36,890	26,344	29,677	20,030	2,955	2,481	2,022	2,143	2,236	1,690	
Employee headcount	persons	21,637	22,130	8,070	8,780	1,388	1,373	3,651	3,551	8,528	8,426	

#### **CE: Power Production & Trading**

CEZ Group power plants in Central Europe produced 33.9 TWh of electricity in H1 2008, down 1.1 TWh (-3.2%) from the same period of last year. Coal-fired power stations in the Czech Republic cut their production by 2.3 TWh in order to optimize output with regard to the price of emission allowances and emission ceilings for NO<sub>X</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, and solids. The Dukovany and Temelín Nuclear Power Stations produced 1.6 TWh more than in last year's first half. H1 2007 was negatively impacted by an unplanned outage on Temelín Unit 1. Hydropower plant production was up 0.1 TWh year-on-year.

Production optimizing in Poland yielded a savings in  $CO_2$  allowances and resulted in a 0.6 TWh cut in production volume, attributable to the low selling price of electricity, which is not sufficient to cover variable costs, including emission allowances.

CE: Power Production		H1 2008	H1 2007
Power produced	TWh	33.9	35.0
of which: nuclear plants	TWh	13.8	12.2
coal plants	TWh	19.1	21.9
hydro and other plants	TWh	1.0	0.9

ČEZ, a. s. is expanding the range of trading commodities. In addition to electricity and emission allowances, we commenced active trading in coal, and soon we plan to begin trading in gas as well.

CE: Wholesale (trading)		H1 2008	H1 2007
Electricity purchased	TWh	25.9	19.5
of which, outside CEZ Group	TWh	22.0	16.9
Electricity sold	TWh	56.2	51.2
of which, outside CEZ Group	TWh	38.3	34.7
- wholesale	TWh	37.9	34.3
- to end customers	TWh	0.4	0.5
Balance	TWh	30.3	31.6

## **CE: Distribution & Sale**

EBITDA in the Distribution & Sale segment grew by 14.8%, due primarily to the warm winter in 2007 and the slower pace of expenditures in 2008. The average temperature in H1 2008 was 1.2°C lower than in the same period of 2007. The volume of electricity distributed to end customers grew by 5.2% year-on-year, to 17.4 TWh. In H1 2008, ČEZ Prodej, s.r.o. sold 13.9 TWh of electricity to end customers in the Czech Republic (0.4 TWh of which was within CEZ Group). The share of ČEZ Prodej, s.r.o. in the end customer market (45%) was unchanged from last year.

CE: Distribution & Retail		H1 2008	H1 2007
Sales to end customers outside CEZ Group	TWh	13.5	12.7
Electricity distribution to end customers	TWh	17.4	16.6

# **CE: Mining**

Severočeské doly, a.s. supplied 8.6 million tons of coal to ČEZ, a. s. in H1 2008, corresponding to a year-on-year decline of 0.6 million tons which was attributable to lower production in coal-fired plants. The lower supplies to ČEZ, a. s. were partially offset by a 0.1 million ton increase in sales volumes to outside customers, to a total of 2.8 million tons.

CE: Coal sales		H1 2008	H1 2007
Coal sold, total	kt	11,406	11,857
of which: sold to ČEZ, a. s.	kt	8,607	9,187

# Southeastern Europe (SEE)

Southeastern Europe (SEE)		Consol	idated	Power Produc	tion & Trading	Distributio	on & Sale	Other		
Southeastern Europe		H1 2008	H1 2007	H1 2008 H1 2007		H1 2008	H1 2007	H1 2008	H1 2007	
Sales other than intersegment sales	CZK millions	12 220	42 442	1.544	1.240	11.787	12.199	1	40	
-		13,230	13,443	, -	1,240	, -	,	1 400		
Intersegment sales	CZK millions	102	36	72	0	73	23	1,166	404	
Total revenues	CZK millions	13,332	13,479	1,616	1,240	11,860	12,222	1,167	444	
EBITDA	CZK millions	1,905	2,026	124	158	1,750	1,912	31	-44	
EBIT	CZK millions	857	979	-53	68	907	976	3	-65	
Employee headcount	persons	7,456	8,522	643	828	5,084	6,463	1,729	1,231	

# **SEE:** Power Production & Trading

The Varna Power Station produced 1.2 TWh of electricity in H1 2008, up 11.9% from the same period of 2007. In both years, however, production volume was optimized to account for market opportunities and variable costs, coal prices in particular.

SEE: Power Production & Whole	H1 2008	H1 2007	
Power produced	TWh	1.2	1.1
Electricity purchased	TWh	0.0	0.3
of which, outside CEZ Group	TWh	0.0	0.2
Electricity sold	TWh		1.3
of which, outside CEZ Group	TWh	0.9	1.3

## SEE: Distribution & Sale

Distribution companies in Bulgaria and Romania distributed a total of 8.7 TWh to end customers in H1 2008, up 2.2% from the same period of last year. Sales to end customers totaled 6.0 TWh (+2.4%). In addition to higher volumes, these figures reflect a positive trend established in the second half of 2007 in Romania: higher distribution tariffs and a lower purchase price of electricity for sale to end customers. EBITDA, however, is down 8.5% from the same period of 2007, due in particular to the Czech Koruna's strength vis-à-vis the Romanian currency.

SEE: Distribution & Retail		H1 2008	H1 2007
Sales to end customers outside CEZ Group	TWh	6.0	5.8
Electricity distribution to end customers	TWh	8.7	8.5

# **Other Information**

- On 12 August 2008, the shares of ČEZ, a. s. reached CZK 1,200 in trading on the PSE. Despite a decline of CZK 162 (-11.9%) from the beginning of 2008, the ČEZ share price has outperformed both the PX index and the Bloomberg utilities index.
- The Annual General Meeting of ČEZ, a. s. held on 21 May 2008 decided to pay a record dividend of CZK 40/share (gross). Dividend payout began on 4 August 2008.
- The same Annual General Meeting also decided to cancel 54.2 million treasury shares and reduce the basic capital by CZK 5,422 million.
- The Annual General Meeting approved another share buy-back round, with the possibility to repurchase up to 53,798,975 shares. The Company will be able to use the shares to reduce the basic capital and meet its obligations under the stock options program.
- 23 June 2008 saw payment of yields and retirement of the 9th issue of ČEZ, a. s. domestic bonds (CZK 3 billion); the strike date was 23 May 2008.
- On 18 July 2008, ČEZ, a. s. released a new issue of eurobonds through its EMTN program. These are six-year bonds with a 6% coupon in a total volume of EUR 600 million (approximately CZK 14.1 billion).

- On 1 July 2008, ČEZ, a. s. won an auction for the Turkish distribution company Sedaş. ČEZ, a. s. participated in the auction in consortium with the local partner AKENERJİ ELEKTRİK ÜRETİM A.Ş. and its parent company AKKÖK Sanayi Yatırım ve Geliştirme A.Ş., with whom ČEZ, a. s. will now set up a joint venture.
- On 11 July 2008, ČEZ, a. s. filed a request for an EIA on its plan to expand the Temelín Nuclear Power Station. The request was filed with the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic.
- On 17 July 2008, a joint venture entitled CM European Power International B.V. was established between the companies ČEZ and MOL. Each company holds a 50% stake. The venture will invest in gas-fired plants in Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, and Slovakia.
- In June 2008, a merger agreement was signed between ČEZData, s.r.o. (as the merged company) and ČEZnet, a.s. (as the surviving company), with the merger to take effect on 1 October 2008.
- On 30 June 2008, ČEZ, a. s. sold its subsidiary I & C Energo a.s. to MOL, the Hungary-based energy group.

Consolidated Income Statement (CZK m) Revenues		4-6/2008 41.816		1-6/2008 90.421		4-6/2007 39.038		1-6/2007 83.162	Consolidated Balance Sheet in accordance with IFRS (CZK m)			Jun	1 30, 2008 D	ac 31, 2007
Sales of electricity		35,728		79,161		36,343		77,310	Non-current assets				326,347	313,081
Gains and losses from electricity derivative trading, net		2,707		4,595		428		965	Plant in service				477,330	479,091
Heat sales and other revenues		3,381		6,665		2,267		4,887	Less accumulated provision for depreciation				242,820	234,297
Operating expenses		-25,790		-52,674		-28,033		-55,839	Net plant in service				234,510	244,794
Fuel		-3,471		-7,466		-3,795		-7,856	Nuclear fuel, at amortized cost				6,518	6,983
Purchased power and related services		-8,285		-18,538		-10,844		-22,711	Construction work in progress				34,413	25,388
Repairs and maintenance		-1,028		-1,691		-1,223		-1,928	Investment in associates				236	248
Depreciation and amortization		-5,281		-10,806		-5,408		-10,831	Investments and other financial assets, net				31,917	16,126
Salaries and wages		-4,033		-7,707		-3,455		-6,991	Intangible assets, net				18,282	19,060
Materials and supplies		-1,220		-2,290		-1,414		-2,885	Deferred tax assets				471	482
Emission rights, net		71		112		57		550	Current assets				115,905	57,861
Other operating expenses		-2,543		-4,288		-1,951		-3,187	Cash and cash equivalents				9,155	12,429
Income before other income (expenses) and income taxes Other income (expenses)		16,026 898		37,747 -980		11,005 -82		27,323 -171	Receivables, net Income tax receivable				23,822 1,104	23,880 79
Interest on debt, net of capitalized interest		-690		-980 -1,352		-82 -585		-1/1	Materials and supplies, net				4,766	4,484
Interest on ocean and other provisions		-690		-1,025		-565		-1,180	Fossil fuel stocks				2,014	4,404
Interest income		447		813		443		710	Emission rights				100	355
Foreign exchange rate gains (losses), net		-28		-656		-3		-32	Other financial assets. net				55,538	10,585
Gain (Loss) on sale of subsidiaries and associates		323		333		125		125	Other current assets				19,406	5,192
Other income (expenses), net		1,341		900		410		1,140	Totat equity and liabilities				442,252	370,942
Income from associates		17		7		9		28	Equity				180,116	184,226
Income before income taxes		16,924		36,767		10,923		27,152	Equity attributable to equity holders of the parent				168,160	171,352
Income taxes		-3,692		-7,809		-2,889		-6,141	Stated capital				59,221	59,221
Net income		13,232		28,958		8,034		21,011	Treasury shares				-66,889	-55,972
Net income attributable to equity holders of the parent		13,068		28,583		7,814		20,495	Retained earnings and other reserves				175,828	168,103
Net income attributable to minority interests		164		375		220		516	Minority interests				11,956	12,874
Earning per Share in CZK - basic		24.5		53.3		13.4		35.0	Long-term liabilities				100,197	107,544
Earning per Share in CZK - diluted		24.4		53.0		13.3		34.8	Long-term debt, net of current portion				43,921	51,984
		Attributab	ole to Equity H	Holders of the	Parent				Accumulated provision for nuclear decommissioning and fuel storage	e			39,540	39,191
Statement of Shareholders' Equity (CZK m)	Stated	Treasury T	Translation	Fair Value	Retained		Minority interests	Total equity	Other long-term liabilities	0			16,736	16,369
	capital	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	differences	and Other	earnings	Total	interests	equity						
	50.001		1.004	Reserves	107 570	10100			Deferred taxes liability				25,810	17,153
December 31, 2006 Change in fair value of available-for-sale financial assets recognized in equity	59,221	-1,943	-1,301	1,381 -1	137,579	<b>194,937</b> -1	12,716	207,653 -1	Current liabilities Short-term loans				136,129 34,829	62,019 18,048
Available-for-sale financial assets removed from equity				-272		-272		-272	Current portion of long-term debt				4,678	3,226
Change in fair value of cash flow hedges recognized in equity				-624		-624		-624	Trade and other payables				83,855	25,738
Cash flow hedges removed from equity				1		1		1	Income tax payable				357	5,969
Translation differences			2,402			2,402	1,155	3,557	Accrued liabilities				12,410	9,038
Share on equity movements of associates					-18	-18		-18	Cash Flow Statement (CZK m)				1-6/2008	1-6/2007
Other movements					2	2	-1	1	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period				12,429	30,932
Gain and loss recorded directly to equity			2,402	-896	-16	1,490	1,154	2,644	Net cash provided by operating activities				27,329	32,981
Net Income					20,495	20,495	516	21,011	Income before income taxes				36,767	27,152
Total gains and losses			2,402	-896	20,479	21,985	1,670	23,655	Depreciation, amortization and asset write-offs				10,807	10,836
Acquisition of treasury shares					-11,785	-11,785		-11,785	Amortization of nuclear fuel				1,460	1,382
Sale of treasury shares		-13,679				-13,679		-13,679	Gain(-)/loss in fixed assets retirements, net				-383	-251
Share options				20		20		20	Foreign exchange rate losses (gains), net				656	32
Transfer of exercised and forfeited share options within equity Change in minority due to acquisitions				-90	90		-275	-275	Interest expense, interest income and dividends income, net Provision for nuclear decommissioning and fuel storage				496 190	387 217
June 30, 2007	59,221	-15,254	1,101	415	146,119	191,602	-2/5	205,713	Valuation allowances, other provisions and other adjustments				-807	-630
December 31, 2007	59.221	-55.972	-2 296	3.225	167 174	171,352	12 874	184.226	Income from associates				-007	-28
Change in fair value of available-for-sale financial assets recognized in equity	00,221	00,012	2,200	-212		-212	.2,014	-212	Changes in assets and liabilities				-14,976	-3,574
Available-for-sale financial assets removed from equity				7		7		7	Income taxes paid				-6,865	-2,233
Change in fair value of cash flow hedges recognized in equity				6,532		6,532		6,532	Interest paid, net of capitalized interest				-523	-1,122
Cash flow hedges removed from equity				-1,110		-1,110		-1,110	Interest received				489	728
Translation differences			-3,218			-3,218	-1,298	-4,516	Dividends received				25	85
Share on equity movements of associates					-1	-1		-1	Total cash used in investing activities				-31,573	-18,769
Other movements					12	12	7	19	Total cash provided by (used in) financing activities				1,796	-16,100
Gain and loss recorded directly to equity			-3,218	5,217	11	2,010	-1,291	719	Net effect of currency translation in cash				-826	902
Net Income					28,583	28,583	375	28,958	Cash and cash equivalents at end of period				9,155	29,946
Total gains and losses			-3,218	5,217	28,594	30,593	-916	29,677	Supplementary information: Total cash paid for interest				1,090	1,480
					-21,321	-21,321	-2	-21,323						
Acquisition of treasury shares										Power				
Acquisition of treasury shares Sale of treasury shares		-13,079				-13,079		-13,079	Details according to business segments for H1 2008 (CZK m)	Power Production &	Distribution	Mining	Other Co	onsolidated
Acquisition of treasury shares Sale of treasury shares Share options		-13,079		50	00.4	-13,079 50		-13,079 50		Power C Production & Trading				
Acquisition of treasury shares Sale of treasury shares Share options Transfer of exercised and forfeited share options within equity	50.224		E 544	-204	204	50	11 050	50	revenues total	60,406	52,314	5,280	15,624	90,421
Acquisition of treasury shares Sale of treasury shares Share options	59,221	-13,079 -66,889	-5,514		204 <b>173,054</b>		11,956			Trading				

EBIT

Head count

Non-audited results of CEZ Group in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards

29,625 3,862 2,022 2,238 37,747

29,093

8,713 6,472 3,651 10,257