Financial report 2011

**RWE Finance B.V.** 

's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands



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# **Directors' report**



## Directors' report

During the year under review no new bonds have been issued.

One bond in the amount of EUR 1,500,000,000 has been repaid. Furthermore the exchange rate for GBP-EUR decreased from 1.162 in 2010 to 1.197 at year end 2011. The exchange rate for USD-EUR decreased from 0.748 at year end 2010 to 0.773 at year end 2011. As a result the balance sheet total decreased from EUR 15,987,594,000 to EUR 14,604,677,000. The net result remained almost the same at EUR 2,582,000 (2010 = EUR 2,580,000).

During the financial year 2011 RWE Finance B.V. (the "Company") paid an interim dividend in amount of EUR 2.300.000.

In 2012 EUR 1,808 million is due and has to be repaid. During 2013 EUR 1,000 million, GBP 630 million and USD 250 million are due and during 2014 EUR 530 million is due.

As per 17 January 2012 the Company issued a bond of GBP 600 million with a coupon of 4.75% p.a., which is due 2034. No further financing is planned for the forseeable future.

All bonds have been issued under guarantee of RWE AG.

The Company intends to continue its operations as an inter group finance company for the foreseeable future.

#### Risk management and use of financial instruments

As the proceeds of all the bonds are one on one lent to the parent company RWE AG and RWE Benelux Holding B.V., a 100% group company, the ability of the company to meet its obligations under the bonds depends upon the payment of the principal and interest due from the parent company and RWE Benelux B.V.. No liquidity risk is present, due to the fact that the maturity mismatch between the assets and liabilities is limited to the equity of the company. The interest rate on the loans, which were issued before 2008, is 0.0237% higher than the interest rate on the relating bonds. The loans issued in 2008 and thereafter have an interest rate of 0.0225% higher than the interest rate on the relating bonds. We furthermore refer to the disclosures in paragraph 4 of the notes.

The proceeds of the bond issued as per 17 January 2012 have been lent to RWE Npower, also a 100% group company.

No financial instruments are used by the company.

### **Currency risk**

The company's currency exposure mainly relates to positions and future transactions in British Pounds and US-Dollars. However, as the bonds issued in foreign currencies have been one on one used to finance the loans to group companies a natural hedge has been obtained and therefore currency risk is eliminated.

#### Interest rate risk

The company's exposure to interest rate risk on interest-bearing receivables and interest-bearing long-term and current liabilities is limited as the bonds and loans issued all have fixed interest rates. The spread on loans amounts to 0.0237% for loans issued before 2006 and included by for loans issued thereafter.

#### Credit risk

The loans to group companies have been granted to RWE AG and RWE Benelux Holding B.V., being a 100% group company. RWE AG has a good solvency and a rating A- outlook negative (S&P).

The loans which are granted to RWE Benelux Holding B.V. are guaranteed by RWE AG.

#### **Responsibility Statement**

"The Managing Directors of the Company hereby declare that to the best of their knowledge and in accordance with the applicable reporting principles for the financial reporting, the financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2011 give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit and loss of the Company and that the Director's report referred to above gives a true and fair view concerning the position as per the balance sheet date, the development and performance of the business during the financial year of the Company together with a description of the principal risks that it faces."

M.R.H.B. Hoogeweegen

Ton

's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands, 9 March 2012

The Managing Directors,

M.E.G. Coenen

A. Blok

Due to the fact that Mr. Hoogeweegen died on 24 March 2012, only three of the Managing Directors are in a position to sign this Report.

RWE Finance B.V., 's-Hertogenbosch

# **Financial statements**



## **Balance sheet**

(before appropriation of result)

	Ref.	31 E	ecember 2011	31	December 2010
		EUR'000	EUR'000	EUR'000	EUR'000
Assets					
Non-current assets					
Financial assets	5.1		12,279,043		13,941,224
Current assets					
Receivables	5.2	2,316,575		2,037,616	
Cash and cash equivalents	5.3	9,059		8,754	
	,		2,325,634		2,046,370
		_	14,604,677	••••	15,987,594
Equity and liabilities		-		****	
Equity attributable to equity					
holders of the parent	5.4	0.000		0.000	
Share capital		2,000		2,000	
Retained earnings		5,529		5,249	
Profit for the year		2,582		2,580	
			10,111		9,829
Non-current liabilities	5.5		12,279,043		13,941,224
Current liabilities	5.6		2,315,523		2,036,541
		-	14,604,677	-	15,987,594
		_		_	



## Income statement

	Ref.		2011		2010
	<del></del> -	EUR'000	EUR'000	EUR'000	EUR'000
Finance costs					
Interest income	6.1	859,423		893,720	
Interest expenses	6.2	(855,860)		(889,968)	
Gross margin on interest	•		3,563	·····	3,752
General and administrative expenses	6.3		(147)	-	(221)
Operating income			3,416		3,531
Income tax expense	6.4		(834)		(951)
Net result after taxation			2,582		2,580
			***************************************		



## Cash flow statement

	2011	2010
	EUR'000	EUR'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash generated from operations:		
Interest received	860,802	888,652
Interest paid	(857,096)	(884,891)
Expenses paid	(170)	(127)
Income tax paid	(870)	(585)
Net cash from operating activities	2,666	3,049
Cash flows from investment activities	-	-
Cash flows from financing activities		
Issuance of long-term bonds	-	182,961
Issuance of long-term loans	-	(182,961)
Repayment of long-term bonds	(1,500,000)	(605,181)
Repayment of long-term loans	1,500,000	605,181
Dividends paid	(2,300)	(2,500)
Net cash used in financing activities	(2,300)	(2,500)
Net cash flows	366	549
Exchange and translation differences on cash and cash equivalents	(61)	32
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	305	581
Cash and cash equivalents		
Opening balance	8,754	8,173
Closing balance	9,059	8,754
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	305	581



#### Notes to the financial statements

#### 1 General

#### 1.1 Activities

The activities of RWE Finance B.V. are to facilitate the financing of RWE AG and group companies.

## 1.2 Group structure

RWE Finance B.V., incorporated on 14 February 2001, is a private limited liability company. The parent company of RWE Finance B.V. is RWE AG in Essen, Germany. The financial statements of RWE Finance B.V. are included in the consolidated financial statements of RWE AG.

## 1.3 Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the statutory provisions of Part 9, Book 2 of the Netherlands Civil Code and the firm pronouncements in the Guidelines for Annual Reporting in the Netherlands as issued by the Dutch Accounting Standards Board.

#### 1.4 Notes to the cash flow statement

The cash flow statement has been prepared applying the direct method. The cash and cash equivalents in the cash flow statement comprise the balance sheet item cash at banks.

Cash flows in foreign currencies have been translated at estimated average exchange rates. Exchange differences affecting cash items are shown separately in the cash flow statement. Receipts and payments of interest and corporate income tax are included in the cash flow from operating activities. Dividends paid have been included in the cash flow from financing activities.

## 1.5 Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the relevant rules requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies. If necessary for the purposes of providing the view required under Section 362(1), Book 2, of the Netherlands Civil Code, the nature of these estimates and judgments, including the related assumptions, is disclosed in the notes to the financial statement items in question.



## 2 Accounting policies for the balance sheet

#### 2.1 General

In general, assets and liabilities are stated at the amounts at which they were acquired or incurred. The balance sheet and income statement include references to the notes. The financial statements are expressed in EUR'000.

## 2.2 Foreign currencies

Transactions, receivables and payables

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies during the reporting period are recognised in the financial statements at the exchange rate ruling at the transaction date.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences resulting from settlement and translation are charged or credited to the income statement.

#### 2.3 Financial assets

Loans to group companies

Loans to group companies included in financial assets are stated at amortised cost.

Deferred premiums and discounts on loans to group companies are amortised over the term of the loans. The deferred part of the premiums and discounts is included under the receivables and current liabilities.

The interest rate charged on loans to group companies has been set in conformity with the tax ruling obtained from the local tax authorities.

#### 2.4 Receivables

Trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. If payment of the receivable is postponed under an extended payment deadline, fair value is measured on the basis of the discounted value of the expected revenues. When a trade receivable is not collectible, it is written off against the allowance account for trade receivables.

## 2.5 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash at banks and deposits with a maturity of less than twelve months. Current account liabilities at banks are recognised under bank overdrafts forming part of current liabilities.



#### 2.6 Non-current liabilities

Bonds included in non-current liabilities are stated at amortised cost.

Deferred premiums and discounts on bonds are amortised over the term of the bonds. The deferred part of the premiums and discounts is included under the receivables and current liabilities.

## 3 Accounting policies for the income statement

#### 3.1 General

Results on transactions are recognised in the year in which they are realised; losses are accrued as soon as they are foreseeable.

#### 3.2 Foreign currencies

Exchange differences resulting from settlement and translation are charged or credited to the income statement.

#### 3.3 General and administrative expenses

General and administrative expenses include the expenses of the board of directors and the administration services outsourced to Deutsche International Trust Company N.V.

#### 3.4 Interest income and expense

Income from financing activities is determined as interest income received from inter-company financing activities. Interest income and expense are time apportioned.

#### 3.5 Taxation

Corporate income tax is calculated on the profit/loss before taxation in the income statement, taking into account tax-exempt items and non-deductible expenses, and using current tax rates.

## 3.6 Deferred income tax assets and liabilities

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognised to provide for temporary differences between the tax bases of assets and liabilities, and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised or the deferred income tax liability is settled.

Deferred income taxes are recognised at face value.



#### 4 Financial instruments

#### 4.1 Market risk

#### Currency risk

The company's currency exposure mainly relates to positions and future transactions in British Pounds and US-Dollars. However, as the bonds issued in foreign currencies have been one on one used to finance the loans to group companies a natural hedge has been obtained and therefore currency risk is eliminated.

#### Price risk

The company's price risk is limited as the bonds issued by the company have been one on one used to finance the loans to group companies. As a result a natural hedge has been obtained.

#### 4.2 Interest rate risk

The company's exposure to interest rate risk on interest-bearing receivables and interest-bearing long-term and current liabilities is limited as the bonds and loans issued all have fixed interest rates. The spread on loans amounts to 0.0237% for loans issued before 2008 and 0.0225% for loans issued thereafter.

#### 4.3 Credit risk

The loans to group companies have been granted to RWE AG and RWE Benelux Holding B.V., being a 100% group company. RWE AG has a good solvency and a rating A- outlook negative (S&P).

The loans which are granted to RWE Benelux Holding B.V. are guaranteed by RWE AG.

We furthermore refer to paragraph 5.1 of the notes to these financial statements.

## 4.4 Liquidity risk

The liquidity risk is minimal, because the proceeds of the bonds outstanding are one-on-one lent to RWE AG and RWE Benelux Holding B.V..

The interest rate on the loans to RWE AG and RWE Benelux Holding B.V. are higher than the interest rate on the related bonds.



#### 5 Notes to the balance sheet

#### 5.1 Financial assets

Financial assets concerns toans to group companies and is specified as follows:

	2011	2010
	EUR'000	EUR'000
1 January		
Book value	13,941,224	15,112,885
Movements financial year		
Loans issued	-	182,962
Exchange differences	145,819	145,377
Short-term loans transferred to receivables	(1,808,000)	(1,500,000)
	(1,662,181)	(1,171,661)
31 December		
Book value	12,279,043	13,941,224

The loans are to be repaid in the period between 2013 and 2039. During the year under review no new loans have been issued. The loans which are to be repaid between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2016 amount to EUR 5,327,431,000 (EUR 4,380,000,000 and GBP 630,000,000 and USD 250,000,000). Three loans for a total amount of EUR 1,808 million will be repaid during 2012. These loans have been classified under the short term receivables

#### Currency

The nominal amount of the loans to the parent company consists of eight loans contracted in EUR amounting to EUR 6,168,000,000 and nine loans to the parent company contracted in GBP to a total amount of GBP 3,947,500,000 (EUR 4,725,829,000) and one loan to the parent company contracted in USD to a total amount of USD 250,000,000 (EUR 193,214,000). Furthermore two loans for a total amount of EUR 3,000,000,000 have been lent on to RWE Benelux Holding B.V., a 100% group company.

#### Interest

The interest rates are fixed and vary as follows:

Loan	Amount	Interest rate	
EUR GBP	9,168,000,000 3,947,500,000	4,6487% - 6.6475% 5,5225% - 6.52379 ncewaterhouseCoopers Accountants N.	1.
USD	250,000,000	2.0225 or identification purposes only	V

## 5.2 Receivables

31 December 2011		31 December 2010	
Total	Term > 1 year	Total	Term > 1 year
EUR'000	EUR'000	EUR'000	EUR'000
1,808,000	-	1,500,000	-
421,506	_	428,795	-
87,069	79,486	108,821	86,799
2,316,575	79,486	2,037,616	86,799
	Total  EUR'000  1,808,000  421,506 87,069	Total Term > 1 year  EUR'000 EUR'000  1,808,000 -  421,506 - 87,069 79,486	Total         Term > 1 year         Total           EUR'000         EUR'000         EUR'000           1,808,000         -         1,500,000           421,506         -         428,795           87,069         79,486         108,821

## 5.3 Cash and cash equivalents

The cash and cash equivalents are at the free disposal of the company.

	2011	2010
	EUR'000	EUR'000
Current account group companies Cash	9,019 40	8,731 23
Total cash and cash equivalents	9,059	8,754

At year-end the deposit with the parent company amounted to EUR 9,018,711 (2010: EUR 8,730,882). The deposit matures at 31 January 2012 and bears interest at 1.09% (2010: 0.76%).

## 5.4 Equity attributable to equity holders of the parent

Share capital

The authorised share capital as at 31 December 2011 amounts to EUR 10,000,000 of which 20,000 shares of EUR 100 each have been issued and fully paid up. The breakdown of the share capital can be specified as follows:



		2011		2010
	Shares	Share capital	Shares	Share capital
•		EUR'000	***************************************	EUR'000
1 January				
Issued and fully paid-up	20,000	2,000	20,000	2,000
Movements financial year				
Additionally paid-in capital	-	-	-	-
31 December			<del></del>	
Issued and fully paid-up	20,000	2,000	20,000	2,000
				-
Retained earnings			2011	2010
		-	EUR'000	EUR'000
Balance as at 1 January			5,249	5,308
Additions from profit previous year			2,580	2,441
Dividends paid			(2,300)	(2,500)
Balance as at 31 December			5,529	5,249
Profit for the year				
			2011	2010
		-	EUR'000	EUR'000
Balance as at 1 January				
Profit for the financial year			2,582	2,580
Balance as at 31 December			2,582	2,580



#### 5.5 Non-current liabilities

This item relates to the issued bonds and is specified as follows:

	2011	2010
	EUR'000	EUR'000
1 January		
Book value	13,941,224	15,112,885
Movements financial year		-
Bonds issued	-	182,962
Exchange differences	145,819	145,377
Short-term part of bonds transferred to current liabilities	(1,808,000)	(1,500,000)
	(1,662,181)	(1,171,661)
31 December		
Book value	12,279,043	13,941,224

The bonds are to be repaid in the period between 2013 and 2039. Repayment of the principals of the bonds is guaranteed by RWE AG. In 2012 EUR 1,808,000,000 has to be repaid. During the year under review no new bond has been issued.

The bonds which are to be repaid between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2016 amount to EUR 5,327,431,000 (EUR 4,380,000,000, GBP 630,000,000 and USD 250,000,000).

#### Currency

The nominal amount of the bonds consists of ten bonds contracted in EUR amounting to EUR 9,168,000,000 and eight bonds contracted in GBP to a total amount of GBP 3,947,500,000 (EUR 4,725,829,000) and one bond contracted in USD 250,000,000 (EUR 193,214,000).

#### Interest

The interest rates are fixed and vary as follows:

Bond	Amount	Interest rate
EUR GBP USD	9,168,000,000 3,947,500,000 250,000,000	5.000% - 6.625% 5.500% - 6.500% cewaterhouse Coopers Accountants N.V 2.005% identification purposes only

	31 D	ecember 2011	31 December 201	
	Total	Term > 1 year	Total	Term > 1 year
	EUR'000	EUR'000	EUR'000	EUR'000
Short-term part of bonds	1,808,000	-	1,500,000	~
Interest payable	419,827	-	427,033	-
Corporate income tax	121	_	88	-
Accrued liabilities	119	-	142	<del></del>
Deferred tax liability	387	326	457	395
Deferred premiums and discounts	87,069	79,486	108,821	86,799
	2,315,523	79,812	2,036,541	87,194
Deferred tax liability				
	_	EUR'000		
At 1 January 2011		457		
Added		-		
	•••	457		
Movements		(70)		
At 31 December 2011	_	387		

During 2012 EUR 60,968 will be amortized to the income statement.

## **Financial instruments**

## Financial instruments valued at cost

The table below shows financial instruments whose market value differs from cost.

	31 December 2011		31 December 2010	
	Market value	Book value	Market value	Book value
Financial assets	EUR'000	EUR'000	EUR'000	EUR'000
Loans to group companies	17,297,144	14,087,043	17,340,270	15,441,224
Financial liabilities Bonds issued	15,987,403	14,087,043	ewaterhouseCooper identification purpos #4,002,187	es only 5,441,224
		D	WC	

#### Financial assets

The market value of the loans to group companies is EUR 17,297,144 (2010: EUR 17,340,270).

The market value of the loans to group companies is higher than the book value because they carry interest at a rate that is higher than the market rate.

The difference in valuation of bonds and loans result from different valuation methods.

The bonds are valuated by market quotes, whereas the market values of the loans are calculated via DCF approach.

#### Non-current liabilities

The market value of the bonds issued is EUR 15,987,403 (2010: EUR 17,002,187).

## 6 Notes to the income statement

## 6.1 Interest income

	2011	2010
	EUR'000	EUR'000
Interest income group companies	836,940	870,483
Release deferred premiums and discounts	22,483	23,237
	859,423	893,720
6.2 Interest expenses		
	2011	2010
	EUR'000	EUR'000
Interest expenses bonds issued	833,377	866,731
Release deferred premiums and discounts	22,483	23,237
	855,860	889,968



## 6.3 General and administrative expenses

	2011	2010
	EUR'000	EUR'000
Advisory fees	34	123
Wages and salaries	0	4
Management and administrative expenses	70	80
Other	43	14
	147	221

The remuneration of the board of directors including pensions during 2011 was EUR 4,300 (2010: EUR 4,300).

PricewaterhouseCoopers Accountants N.V. was appointed as auditor of the financial statements of the Company. The composition of the fees paid to the auditor is as follows:

	2011	2010
	EUR'000	EUR'000
Audit of the Financial Statements	27	23
Other assurance engagements - Debt Issuance Program	30	27
Total audit fees	57	50
6.4 Income tax expense		
	2011	2010
	EUR'000	EUR'000
Result before taxation	3,416	3,531
Total permanent and timing	aug	***
Taxable amount	3,416	3,531
Income tax charge	834	951
Effective tax rate	24.4%	26.9%
Liteotive tax rate	PricewaterhouseCoopers	Accountants N.V
The average effective tax rate amounts to 24.4%.	For identification purpose	s only

The statutory rate is 25% for the year 2011. The difference to the effective tax rate is mainly caused by the fact that the tax rate over the first EUR 200,000 profit is only 20%.

## 6.5 Employees

During 2011 and 2010 an average of two employees were employed by the company.

## 6.6 Related parties

All legal entities that can be controlled, jointly controlled or significantly influenced are considered to be a related party. Also, entities which can control the company are considered a related party. In addition, statutory directors, other key management of RWE Finance B.V. or the ultimate parent company and close relatives are regarded as related parties.

The parent company RWE AG and RWE Benelux Holding B.V. qualify as related parties. We also refer to the notes 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3.

Transactions carried out by the company with related parties are all based on arm's length terms and conditions.

The related party positions within the balance sheet as at 31 December 2011 and 2010 can be specified as

	2011	2010
	EUR'000	EUR'000
Loans including deferred premium and discount	14,046,679	15,399,595
Interest receivable on the above loans	421,506	428,795
Deposit	9,019	8,731
Total related parties in the balance sheet	14,477,204	15,837,121

The related party positions within the income statement for the years 2011 and 2010 can be specified as follows:

	2011	2010
	EUR'000	EUR'000
Interest on loans	836,821	870,422
Amortisation premium and discount	22,483	23,237
Interest on deposit	114	61
Total related parties in the income statement	859,418	893,720



's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands, 9 March 2012

Board of directors,

M.E.G. Coenen

M.R.H.B. Hoogeweegen

A. Blok

Due to the fact that Mr. Hoogeweegen died on 24 March 2012, only three of the Managing Directors are in a position to sign this Report.

## Other information



## Proposed profit appropriation

According to article 27 of the Articles of Association the profit for the year is at the free disposal of the General Meeting of Shareholders.

During the year the Company paid interim dividends to a total amount of EUR 2,300,000. The company will not advise the shareholder to pay a final dividend.

#### Events after the balance sheet date

As per 17 January 2012 the Company issued a bond of GBP 600 million with a coupon of 4.75% p.a., which is due 2034. No further financing is planned for the forseeable future.

No other events after the balance sheet date occurred, which should be included in these accounts.





# Independent auditor's report

To: the General Meeting of Shareholders of RWE Finance B.V.

## Report on the financial statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements 2011 as set out on pages 5 to 21 of RWE Finance B.V., 's-Hertogenbosch, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2011, the income statement for the year then ended and the notes, comprising a summary of accounting policies and other explanatory information.

## Board of directors' responsibility

The board of directors is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements and for the preparation of the directors' report, both in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code. Furthermore, the board of directors is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standards on Auditing. This requires that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the company's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the board of directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

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## Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of RWE Finance B.V. as at 31 December 2011, and of its result for the year then ended in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

## Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Pursuant to the legal requirement under Section 2:393 sub 5 at e and f of the Dutch Civil Code, we have no deficiencies to report as a result of our examination whether the directors' report, to the extent we can assess, has been prepared in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of this Code, and whether the information as required under Section 2:392 sub 1 at b-h has been annexed. Further we report that the directors' report, to the extent we can assess, is consistent with the financial statements as required by Section 2:391 sub 4 of the Dutch Civil Code.

Rotterdam, 9 March 2012 PricewaterhouseCoopers Accountants N.V.

Original has been signed by F.J. van Groenestein RA