



press release

Bologna 26 April 2007

HERA: The Shareholders' Meeting approves 2006 financial statements which registered a constant growth for the fourth consecutive year, reporting an EBITDA of Euro 426.7 million (+10.4%)

Dividend of 0.08 eurocents per share, a 14.3% increase compared to the previous year. Dividend distribution to the shareholders of Euro 81.5 million

Resolved to purchase 15 million of own shares for a counter-value of up to Euro 60 million.

Today, in Bologna, the Shareholders' Meeting of Hera S.p.A. approved the 2006 financial statements and the proposal of the Board of Directors to distribute a dividend of 0.08 eurocents per share, a 14.3% increase compared to the 2005 dividend which will be paid starting from 7 June 2007, with detachment of the coupon on 4 June 2007.

The 2006 Group financial statements highlight revenues of Euro 2,311.5 million (+10% compared to 2005), an EBITDA of Euro 426.7 million (+10.4%) and an EBIT of Euro 100.2 million.

Moreover, the Shareholders' Meeting resolved on the possibility of purchasing 15 million of own shares for a counter-value of up to Euro 60 million over an 18-month period.

The shares can be used to finance small acquisitions of companies located close to Hera's territorial perimeter or acquisitions of assets such as plants.

The Chairman, Tomaso Tommasi di Vignano, commented "The Hera Group remains a sound company in constant growth, capable of distributing value to its shareholders and the territory. Through the coupon, Euro 81.5 million will be distributed to the shareholders and, of these, more than Euro 48 million to the Municipalities, in line with the objectives of the 2006-2009 Industrial Plan."

The Managing Director, Maurizio Chiarini, stressed "The economic effects of the Company's activities on the territory from its establishment to date have been extremely significant in terms of investments, goods and services and staff and, in particular, in 2006 they were equal to Euro 1.3 billion, for dividends, investments, purchases of goods and services and staff expenses."

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