



World Bank ranking: Top marks for Aliquantum locations

Current report confirms Aliquantum Energy business model and investment locations

London / Essen, November 2016 – The competitiveness of the Balkan states of Serbia and Macedonia has improved significantly. This is one of the findings in the current World Bank report “Doing Business 2017”. Serbia has advanced seven places from 54th place to be ranked 47th overall. Macedonia has even made it into the top ten. The country is ranked 10th by the World Bank. The Anglo-German company Aliquantum Energy plc operates in both countries. Headquartered in London and Essen, the company specializes in the construction and operation of run-of-the-river hydroelectric power plants in Europe.

The World Bank has, for the 14th time, compared 190 of the world's countries as places in which to do business. In their reports, the analysts examine eleven different criteria associated with opening and running a business in the various countries. They compare things such as the burden of regulatory approvals, protection for minority investors, and also access to electricity and the opportunities for obtaining loans for funding and implementing business plans. The unbroken timeline since the first edition in 2004 enables the World Bank to identify effective reforms and their positive impact in the various countries.

“The current World Bank report confirms our business model and the assessment of our investment locations,” says Hans-Peter Floren, CEO of Aliquantum Energy. The company is building a portfolio of attractive hydroelectric power plants with the aim of launching on the stock exchange in the medium term. The focus is on investments in European hydropower generation plants. Aliquantum uses its contacts among political and business decision-makers in south-eastern Europe with a view to acquiring small and medium-sized run-of-the-river hydroelectric power plants in the region.



In Serbia, for example, electricity from renewable energies is sold under a remuneration system similar to that operated in Germany, guaranteeing long-term cash flows of attractive proportions.

Ranked in 47th place, Serbia has left some southern and western European countries in its wake in the current report, such as Italy (ranked 50th in the list), Luxembourg (59th) and Greece (61st). The biggest step forward Serbia made in the current report has been “Dealing with Construction Permits”, i.e. the practice of issuing permits for setting up a company, where the country moved up from 152nd place to 36th place. Above all, the World Bank praises the simplified approvals process for starting a business, where the time taken to register a company has now reduced considerably. Start-up entrepreneurs are now also able to use an online system to apply for construction permits without significant red tape. Transfers of ownership and entries onto the various registers have also been simplified.

Where Serbia came out best was in the area of “Cross-border trade”. Occupying 23rd place, the country is ranked well ahead of Germany, which took 38th place in this category. Overall, Germany is in 17th place, doing best in terms of insolvency law (3rd place) and access to electricity (5th place).

Macedonia achieved its best rating in the “Starting a business” category, where the tiny country took 4th place, putting it well ahead of the pack. In the overall assessment, New Zealand, Singapore and Denmark made it into the top three, with Libya, Eritrea and Somalia – three countries on the continent of Africa – bringing up the rear.

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Aliquantum Energy plc is a New Energy company specializing in hydropower, the answer to clean, sustainable energy supplies in Europe. Investors own holdings in a portfolio of productive hydroelectric power plants in Europe and benefit from attractive returns on the sale of electricity they produce.