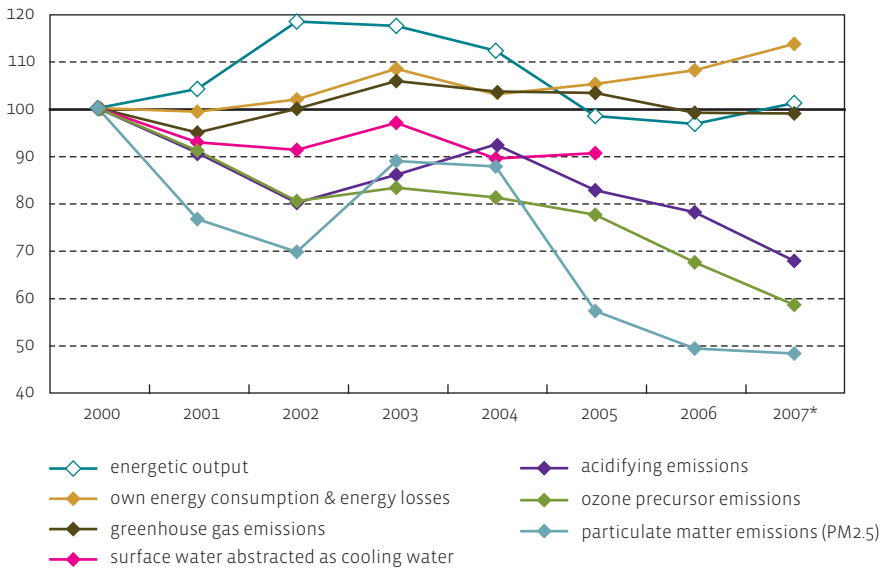


index (2000=100)



* provisional figures

Source: MIRA based on VITO and VMM

Efficiency gains in energy production undone

The energetic output of the energy sector – this is the total energy content of the finished products such as petrol or electricity – increased faster than its own energy consumption and the energy losses during the transformation, the transport and the distribution until 2002. This relative decoupling points to improved efficiency. However, from 2003 onwards, a reversed phenomenon occurs. The sector's own energy consumption and losses increased while less energy was produced. In other words, there was a loss of efficiency. Refineries account for the largest part of the energetic output (88 %). Both of the curves described above thus follow the development of the activity and the energy consumption and loss of the refineries.

Greenhouse gas emission reduction lags behind other air pollutants

Compared to 2000, there is an absolute decoupling for the emissions of acidifying substances (-32 %), ozone precursors (-42 %) and fine particles (PM_{2.5}) (-52 %). Emissions are however heavily dependent on the use of coal in power plants (e.g. the jump after 2002). Despite the favourable development since 2003 for greenhouse gases, these emissions were only 1.2 % lower in 2007 than the 2000 level.

	2000	2005	2006	2007*
energetic output (PJ)	1 803	1 772	1 741	1 822
own energy consumption & energy losses (PJ)	366	384	395	416
greenhouse gas emissions (air) (ktonnes CO ₂ -eq)	23 584	24 321	23 337	23 311
surface water abstracted as cooling water (million m ³)	2 832	2 560
ozone precursor emissions (tonnes TOFP)	62 843	48 632	42 325	36 673
acidifying emissions (million Aeq)	2 531	2 091	1 974	1 712
fine particle emissions (PM _{2.5}) (tonnes)	1 790	1 022	879	860