Public consultation on the review of progress towards the 2020 energy efficiency objective and a 2030 energy efficiency policy framework

This consultation is part of the assessment of progress towards the 2020 energy efficiency objective required under Article 3(2) of the Energy Efficiency Directive 2012/27/EU. It is also a follow-up to the Communication “A policy framework for climate and energy in the period from 2020 to 2030”.

The EU has set itself an energy efficiency target for 2020: 20% energy savings compared to projections. It has defined what this means at EU level: energy consumption of no more than 1483 Mtoe primary energy and 1086 Mtoe final energy. At national level, Member States have set themselves indicative national targets. EU measures have been adopted covering the energy efficiency of products; buildings; power and heat generation and supply; and information/incentives/financing for efficiency among citizens and businesses.

Analysis suggests that the EU is making progress towards its 2020 target, but there is likely to be a shortfall. Latest projections and national targets - which will be updated later this year - indicate that about 17% energy use reduction will be achieved by 2020. It therefore needs to be considered what policy options could address this situation in the most appropriate manner.

The "2030" Communication makes it clear that, with a 2030 perspective, more ambitious energy efficiency efforts are necessary and the exact ambition of future energy savings policy and the measures necessary to deliver it need to be established. It also needs to be considered whether energy intensity of the economy or energy savings or a hybrid of the two are a better benchmark in which to frame 2030 objectives.

The Commission aims to bring forward its assessment of these issues later this year. Responses to this consultation exercise will be an important input to that assessment.

Questions marked with an asterisk * require an answer to be given.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE RESPONDENTS

Are you responding to this questionnaire on behalf of/as:*

- ( ) Individual
- [x] Organisation
- ( ) Company
- ( ) Public Authority
- ( ) Other

Please specify* (maximum 50 characters)

Association of steel producing companies in Germany

Please enter your name or the name of your company/organisation:* (maximum 50 characters)

German Steel Federation
Wirtschaftsvereinigung Stahl

Please indicate your principal country or countries of residence or activity:*

( ) Austria	( ) Belgium	( ) Bulgaria
( ) Croatia	( ) Cyprus	( ) Czech Republic
( ) Denmark	( ) Estonia	( ) Finland
( ) France	[x] Germany	( ) Greece
( ) Hungary	( ) Ireland	( ) Italy
( ) Latvia	( ) Lithuania	( ) Luxembourg
( ) Malta	( ) Netherlands	( ) Poland
( ) Portugal	( ) Romania	( ) Slovakia
( ) Slovenia	( ) Spain	( ) Sweden
( ) United Kingdom	( ) Other	

Please specify which other country.* (maximum 50 characters)

How would you prefer your contribution to be published on the Commission website, if at all?*

x Under the name indicated (I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is under copyright restrictions that prevent publication)

Anonymously (I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is under copyright restrictions that prevent publication)

Not at all – keep it confidential (my contribution will not be published, but it will be used internally within the Commission)

A. Energy efficiency targets and measures

1. Do you think the right approach in addressing the shortfall is:

*

a) To define energy efficiency target(s)

b) Reinforced implementation of existing legislation, including active policy on infringements

c) Proposing new legislation

x d) Other **no new legislation**

1.a.1. How should these target(s) be expressed?*

In terms of energy intensity improvements of the economy and economic sectors

As absolute energy savings

As a hybrid of the two represents a better benchmark upon which to frame a 2030 objective

X Other opinion

1.a.2. At what level should they apply?*

- [ ] EU
- [ ] National
- [ ] Sectoral

1.a.3. Should they be:*

- ( ) Legally binding
- (X) Indicative
- ( ) No opinion

Further comments on targets (maximum 1000 characters)

We consider a binding Energy Efficiency Target as a redundant measure to other targets like for instance GHG reductions.

Please specify your response b)

(maximum 1000 characters)

Please specify your response c)

(maximum 1000 characters)

Energy efficiency measures have to focus on such areas that are not included in the ETS and that have significant potential for energy saving for instance in public and private buildings; for transportation it should be left to the Member States. A consideration of the steel industry has to be refused since the remaining potentials are low and the realization of these potentials is very cost intensive. Additionally, the companies would be endangered through further burdens to industrial competitiveness. As well, these would be a redundancy with the ETS.

Please specify your response d)

(maximum 1000 characters)

B. Energy efficiency sectors

2. Do you think that further policy measures are needed at EU level to foster energy efficiency in buildings?

*

[x] Yes ○ No ○ No opinion

Please give details. (maximum 1000 characters)

See above 1a3c

3. Do you think that further policy measures are needed at EU level to foster energy efficiency in industry?

○ Yes [x] No ○ No opinion

Please give details. (maximum 1000 characters)

The steel industry supports the aim of minimizing the input of energy and has permanently the ambition to reduce its energy consumption in order to economize costs and stay competitive. Through innovations and the optimization of its processus the specific primary energy consumption was reduced by nearly 40 per cent since 1960. Further legislation to the topic of energy efficiency for the industry is therefore unnecessary and would not induce a steering effect. Companies have to decide for themselves on investments.

4. Do you think that further policy measures are needed at EU level to foster energy efficiency in transport?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [x] No opinion

Please give details. (maximum 1000 characters)

5. Do you think that further policy measures are needed at EU level to foster energy efficiency in electrical equipment?

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No
- [ ] No opinion

Please give details. (maximum 1000 characters)

The challenge will be clarified by the self-regulation of the market.

6. Do you think that further policy measures are needed at EU level to foster energy efficiency in generation and distribution?

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No
- [ ] No opinion

Please give details. (maximum 1000 characters)

Companies have to decide for themselves on investments.

7. Do you think that further financial mechanisms and instruments are needed at EU level to mobilise energy efficiency investments?

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No
- [x] No opinion

Please give details. (maximum 1000 characters)

8. Do you think that further measures are needed to build the capacity of actors in the energy efficiency sector?

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No
- [x] No opinion

9. What are the most promising technology solutions that can help deliver energy savings in the 2020 and 2030 time horizon? How can their development and uptake be supported at EU level?

(maximum 1000 characters)

10. Further comments (maximum 1000 characters)

Please give details. (maximum 1000 characters)

Useful links

Consultation page: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/consultations/20140428_eed_2020_2030_en.htm