

Letter from: Nancy Mahieu, Chair of CONCERE-ENOVER, Belgian Federal Public Service for the Economy, SMEs, Self-Employed and Energy

To: European Commission Directorate-General for Energy, Energy Efficiency & Intelligent Energy, Head of Unit Mr Paul Hodson, DM 24 04/004

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Contact person: Ludwig Vandermaelen, Directorate-General for Energy – ENOVER Secretariat

Subject: Notification of exemptions pursuant to Article 14(6) of Directive 2012/27/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on energy efficiency, amending Directives 2009/125/EC and 2010/30/EU and repealing Directives 2004/8/EC and 2006/32/EC

Belgium will not apply any exemptions to the cost-benefit analysis in accordance with Article 14(6).

This decision was confirmed on 24 October 2013 at the plenary meeting of CONCERE-ENOVER, i.e. the forum for energy consultations between the federal state and the regions.

Following an assessment of the potential for high-efficiency cogeneration and efficient district heating and cooling in accordance with Article 14(1) (by 31 December 2015 at the latest), an assessment will be made as to whether certain types of installation in accordance with Article 14(4) can still be exempted where no potential is identified whose benefits exceed the costs. This detailed assessment of the potential will specifically include an examination of whether it makes sense to introduce thresholds.

As a result of the planned phasing-out of the current nuclear power stations in Belgium, as set out in the Act of 31 January 2003 on the phasing-out of nuclear power for industrial electricity production, there will be no further new investments that could be covered by a cost-benefit analysis. This is because the construction of new nuclear power plants is explicitly ruled out under Article 3 of the 2003 Act and, given the high costs of new nuclear power plants, major renovations of existing nuclear power plants, which cost more than 50% of the cost of investment in a comparable new unit, are also more than unlikely.

Since there will be no further new investments that could be covered by a cost-benefit analysis, Belgium will not make any changes to its current rules and, in other words, will not provide for any cost-benefit analysis requirement for licences.

Nancy Mahieu,
Chair of CONCERE-ENOVER