



Energy in Europe

Editorial

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Energy efficiency is a measure that meets all our energy policy objectives – security of supply, affordable energy and sustainability. Energy savings in the buildings sector, for example, would drastically increase Europe's security of supply. This sector alone burns more gas for winter heating than all the gas power plants in Europe. For affordable energy, households would greatly benefit from more efficient energy use through lower energy bills. And the less energy we use, the lower the environmental impact – in particular in terms of CO2 emissions.

Europe is beginning to reap the benefits of increased energy efficiency due to strong rules adopted at EU level. Buildings are consuming less energy, inefficient equipment is being phased out from the market, and all actors are becoming more aware of opportunities to save energy. However, more needs to be done. European standards need to be fully implemented by all Member States if we want to cut Europe's energy consumption by 20% by 2020.

Keeping on a cost-effective pathway to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050 requires even more ambition. This is why the European Commission proposed to set an EU target for 30% in energy savings by 2030. Such a target is realistic and ambitious. Achieving it would mean thousands of new jobs that cannot be exported, a massive reduction in Europe's external energy bill (which currently costs 1 billion EUR every day) and lower CO2 emissions.

The proposed energy efficiency target (alongside targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40% and increase the renewable energy share to at least 27%) completes the Energy and Climate Framework which the Commission proposed on 22 January.

Member States will consider the proposed Framework ahead of discussions expected on 23 October 2014 at the European Council. In the meantime, I hope the coming months serve as a good opportunity to reflect on Europe's energy ambitions. I wish you an enjoyable summer!

Dominique Ristori



Dominique Ristori
Director-General for
Energy

PRESIDENT BARROSO ANNOUNCES CARETAKER REPLACEMENTS FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF 4 COMMISSIONERS – 1 JULY 2014

4 out of the 7 Commissioners who successfully ran for the European elections have resigned from the European Commission to take up their seats in the European Parliament as from 1 July 2014. President Barroso decided to reallocate the portfolios, pending decisions on their replacements. He also decided to appoint Michel Barnier and Günther Oettinger as Vice-Presidents for the remainder of the mandate.

Read the full press release: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-762_en.htm



THE EU TAKES THE LEAD ON NUCLEAR SAFETY WITH THE AMENDMENT TO THE NUCLEAR SAFETY DIRECTIVE – 8 JULY 2014

On 8 July, the EU's new Nuclear Safety Directive was adopted by the Council. It provides more power and independence for national regulatory authorities, a high-level EU-wide safety objective, and a European system of peer reviews. It will also introduce periodic national safety assessments and on-site emergency preparedness and response arrangements. In addition, it increases transparency and improves education and training. The 2014 directive amends the one in force since 2009. It provides a stronger framework for EU nuclear safety, as called for by the EU Heads of State or Government following the 2011 nuclear accident in Fukushima.

Read the full press release: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-777_en.htm

Read the MEMO: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-14-464_en.htm

Watch our video clip:

<http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/video/player.cfm?ref=I079016>

ENERGY EFFICIENCY COMMUNICATION DRIVES EUROPE FORWARD WITH NEW 30% TARGET FOR 2030 – 23 JULY 2014

Thousands of new jobs, renewed opportunities for European businesses, and the reduction of natural gas imports by 2.3% for every 1% of energy savings. These are some of the expected benefits of meeting the new 30% target for energy efficiency in 2030, presented by the European Commission in the Energy Efficiency Review. The proposed target builds on the progress already made through existing policies: new buildings use 50% of the energy they did in the 80s, new cars consume 2 litres less in fuel than those built 9 years ago, and industry is about 19% less energy intensive than in 2001. Energy efficient appliances are also expected to generate €465/year savings per household in 2020.



Read the full press release: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-856_en.htm

Read the Q&A: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-14-494_en.htm

Event in the spotlight

Ministerial Conference: "Gas developments in the Mediterranean Region and their impact to EU's security of supply", Valetta, Malta 10-11 July 2014

The Participants agreed that secure, sustainable and affordable energy is a priority for all, and is a key factor for underpinning stability and prosperity in the region. They underlined the importance of regional cooperation to strengthen security of supply but also favour regional trade in the interest of both gas producers and consumers in the EU, North Africa and the Middle East.

Read the full press release: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-14-222_en.htm

Watch the closing remarks by Commissioner Oettinger: <http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/video/player.cfm?ref=I091194>

Featured post from our Social Media / New publication



Günther Oettinger @GOettingerEU

@EU_Commission drives Europe towards more #EnergyEfficiency, with the new 30% target for 2030. europa.eu/!yc46bd



The statistical pocketbook 2014 is now available online: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/observatory/statistics/statistics_en.htm

July infringements

Energy efficiency in buildings: Commission refers Poland and Austria to Court and proposes fines

The European Commission is referring Poland and Austria to the Court of Justice of the European Union for failing to fully transpose the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. Under this Directive, Member States must establish and apply minimum energy performance requirements for all buildings, ensure the certification of buildings' energy performance and require the regular inspection of heating and air conditioning systems. In addition, the Directive requires Member States to ensure that by 2021 all new buildings are 'nearly zero-energy' buildings. The Directive was meant to have been transposed into national law by 9 July 2012.

Günther H. Oettinger, Vice-President of the Commission responsible for energy, said: "Energy efficiency is important to decrease import dependency and boost security of supply. It is crucial that all Member States put in place the legislation necessary to speed up energy efficiency measures. 40% of EU energy consumption is in the buildings' sector so this is the field where the highest savings can be achieved".

Read more: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-813_en.htm



Question from a Member of the European Parliament

Question by MEP Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris (PPE) to the Commission

Subject: Nuclear waste observatory

The nuclear waste observatory is being built in Italy under the auspices of a technical agency of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance. The new body will have the remit to manage and dispose of nuclear waste in the country, identifying suitable structures for decommissioning. However, the need to consider a joint disposal system for the long term at European level is becoming apparent.

- 1. Can the Commission supply information about any transnational projects which the EU is considering for decommissioning?**
- 2. Can it also supply information about the instruments adopted in other Member States to manage nuclear waste in the interests of safety?**

1. The EU is not considering any transnational projects for decommissioning. The licenseholder, and ultimately the Member State, is responsible for the safe decommissioning of its nuclear facilities, including the accumulation of adequate financial resources. There is only one exception to this principle, which is the EU financial assistance to Bulgaria, Lithuania and Slovakia as a measure of EU solidarity following the commitment of the three Member States to the early closure of some of their nuclear power plants in the context of their accession to the EU.

2. In 2011 the EU adopted Council Directive 2011/70/Euratom establishing a Community framework for the responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste. Article 7(3) of the Directive clearly requires a safety demonstration as part of the licensing of a facility, covering its entire lifecycle. Member States were obliged to bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 23 August 2013, and to inform the Commission thereof. The Commission is currently examining the national transposition measures communicated to it by the Member States.

Infographics of the month



Energy Efficiency in Europe

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IS one of the most cost-effective options for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, while **improving the security of energy supply and creating jobs.**



TODAY

ENERGY EFFICIENT SOLUTIONS INCLUDE



Smart METERS
to control energy use



Households APPLIANCES
to cut energy bills and to promote competitive products



Energy efficient BUILDINGS
To lower consumption, to improve air quality and to reduce external noise



ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKS !



NEW BUILDINGS
consume 50% the energy they did in the 1980s



NEW CARS
consume 2 litres less fuel than in 1995 (reduction from 7.7 l/100 km to 5.6 l/100 km)



EU INDUSTRY
improved energy intensity fell +1.9% between 2001 and 2011



A+ REFRIGERATORS
increased market shares from <5% (1995) to >90% (2010)

TOMORROW

TARGET 20% 2020



~100% households will have smart meters



Member States will invest **€45 billion** for smart meters in electricity and gas



The EU will invest in **energy efficient buildings**



Households will **save €465/year** through energy efficient appliances

OUR LIVES

Better homes, control of energy use, lower energy bills

TARGET XX% 2030

ENERGY DEPENDENCE

1% of energy savings = 2.3% fewer gas imports

INDUSTRY

Opportunities for local companies and high value-added appliances in an efficient market

JOBS

XX thousand jobs for XX% energy savings

GROWTH

+XX% GDP



#EUEnergyChallenge
#EnergyEfficiency

Scheduled for Commission adoption

Third quarter 2014

- Report on state of implementation of the internal energy market
- Communication on the internal energy market at retail level
- Communication on nuclear off-site emergency preparedness and response and nuclear third party liability and insurance

Calls for Tenders

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/energy/tenders/index_en.htm

Until 4 August 2014

Mapping and analyses of the current and future (2020–2030) heating/cooling fuel deployment (fossil/renewables)

Until 7 August 2014

Analysing the potential for wide-scale roll-out of integrated smart cities and communities solutions

Until 25 August 2014

Provision of guidance on compliance and reporting on the monitoring of the independent control systems

Until 8 September 2014

Evaluation of Member States' strategies and plans for the transposition of the Basic Safety Standards Directive (Council Directive 2013/59/Euratom)

Until 12 September 2014

Improving the sustainability of fatty acid methyl esters (FAME – Biodiesel)

Also ongoing (no deadline)

Horizon 2020: Experts wanted for biggest EU research programme yet

Events in autumn

15–16 October 2014

Gas regulatory forum, Madrid

17 November 2014

Conference "How to shape energy policy so as to boost European Competitiveness?" by Business Bridge Europe, Brussels

Call for Grants

Until 19 August 2014

CEF Energy Call for Proposals 2014
http://inea.ec.europa.eu/en/cef/cef_energy/apply_for_funding/cef_energy_call_for_proposals_2014.htm

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