



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO SELECT MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION EXPERT GROUP ON ELECTRICITY INTERCONNECTION TARGETS

1. BACKGROUND

By decision of 9 March 2016¹ (the Decision), the Commission has set up a group of experts on electricity interconnection targets (the Group).

A well-interconnected energy infrastructure is the key for an integrated, competitive and sustainable internal energy market in the European Union.

In the 'European Energy Security Strategy' Communication the Commission proposed to extend the current 10% electricity interconnection target to 15% by 2030, while taking into account the cost aspects and the potential of commercial exchanges in the relevant regions. The 15% target, as proposed by the Commission, has been endorsed by the October 2014 European Council.

In the Communication on achieving the 10 % electricity interconnection target in February 2015, the Commission highlighted that the completion of the internal electricity market will require more than 10% interconnection capacity. At the same time, differences between Member States in terms of geographic location and structure of energy mix and supply mean that a case-by-case approach based on a thorough assessment of bottlenecks, taking into account the costs, is needed.

The task of the Group is to provide the Commission and the regional cooperation structures - the Regional Groups for electricity established by Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council² (TEN-E Regulation) and the relevant High Level Groups for energy infrastructure - with technical advice on how best to conceptualise the 15% interconnection target into regional, country and/or border level targets as well as on key technical issues related to the implementation of the necessary interconnections, including those related to the achievement of the 10% interconnection target..

¹ Commission Decision of 9 March 2016 on setting up a Commission expert group on electricity interconnection targets COM(2016) 1406 (OJ C 94, 10.3.2016, p. 2-5) http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2016.094.01.0002.01.ENG&toc=OJ:C:2016:094:TOC

² Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure and repealing Decision No 1364/2006/EC and amending Regulations (EC) No 713/2009, (EC) No 714/2009 and (EC) No 715/2009 (OJ L 115, 25.4.2013, p. 39)

The Commission is therefore calling for applications from organisations as specified in Article 4(1) points (c), (d), (e) and individuals as specified in Article 4(1) point (f) with a view to selecting members of the Group as specified in Article 5(1) of the Decision.

2. FEATURES OF THE GROUP

2.1. Composition

The Group shall consist of up to 15 members and shall be chaired by a representative of the Directorate-General for Energy.

In accordance with Article 4(1) and Article 5(1) of the Decision, members of the Group will be selected from relevant organisations and individuals in their personal capacity acting independently and in the public interest.

More specifically, members of the Group shall be selected from organisations such as European industry organisations and associations, academic and research organisations specialised in internal energy market and energy infrastructure issues with a focus on electricity, relevant European non-governmental and international organisations specialised in internal energy market and energy infrastructure issues with a focus on electricity as well as from individuals appointed in a personal capacity, and who have all responded to this call for applications.

Representatives and their alternates proposed by the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) and the European Networks of Transmission System Operators for electricity and for gas (ENTSO-E and ENTSO-G), shall be appointed directly and shall not respond to this public call.

2.2. Terms of the appointment

Members shall be appointed for a period of two years and half, renewable once.

2.3. Confidentiality

The members of the group shall respect the conditions of confidentiality mentioned in Article 6(4) of the Decision.

2.4. Transparency

Data on members and personal data shall be treated in accordance with Article 4(5) and Article 5(4) of the Decision.

2.5. Attendance and meetings

Applicants should be prepared to attend meetings systematically, to contribute actively to discussions in the group, to examine and provide comments on documents under discussion and to act, as appropriate, as ‘rapporteurs’ on ad hoc basis.

Members' representatives and their alternates as well as individual members must be able to express himself/herself fluently in English and be able to draft technical text in English.

The group shall normally meet on Commission premises in Brussels in accordance with expert meeting procedures.

The first meeting of the Group is tentatively scheduled on 27 April 2016. It is tentatively planned that in total six meetings of the Group will be organised in 2016 and four meetings in 2017. The meetings are expected to last one full day each.

2.6. Scope of the work

Applicants should take into account that meetings will involve preparatory and a follow-up work.

It is expected that the Group will prepare a first report to the Commission by end of October 2016 with its draft recommendations in response to the task as specified in Article 2(1) point (a) of the Decision.

In line with Article 2(2) of the Decision, the Group shall regularly consult the regional cooperation structures, i.e. Regional Groups for Electricity established by Regulation (EU) No 347/2013, as well as the relevant High Relevant Groups on energy infrastructure. Therefore, the representatives of the Group might be requested to attend the meetings of the regional cooperation structures and present and discuss ongoing results of the Group.

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

3.1. General rules

Interested applicants for membership according to Article 4(1) points (c), (d), (e) and (f) of the Decision are required to submit their applications to the European Commission.

An application will be deemed admissible only if it includes the documents referred to in chapter 4.3 and 4.5, as applicable, of this call, sent at the latest by the deadline referred to thereafter. All the above-mentioned documents should be duly filled in, legible, signed and numbered sequentially. All the documents mentioned above will be used in the selection procedure.

Each application must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union. However, applications in English would significantly facilitate the evaluation procedure. If another language is used, it would be desirable to include a summary of the CV in English.

The application must also clearly specify the stakeholder category for which the application is made (see Appendix 1) and must clearly indicate the name and references of the organisation and include the necessary documentation. Each applying organisation must propose its representative and his or her alternate, and provide for each of them individual information. Supporting documents (e.g. publications) might be requested at a later stage.

3.2. Deadline for application

The duly signed and scanned applications must be sent not later than **24 April 2016** to the following e-mail address: ENER-B1-PROJECTS@ec.europa.eu, the date of the e-mail will be the date of sending.

4. REQUIREMENTS

4.1. General selection criteria for members applying as organisations or individuals in a personal capacity

Representatives and alternates of the applicants being organisations as well as applicants being individuals appointed in their personal capacity must be nationals of a Member State of the European Union or of the European Economic Area or, if appropriate, of an acceding country, or a country which has signed an association agreement.

When selecting the members of the Group, the Commission shall aim at ensuring a balanced representation of relevant areas of expertise and areas of interest, as well as a balanced representation of gender and geographical origin, while taking into account the specific tasks to be carried out by the Group and the type of expertise required.

In case a representative and his or her alternates of the selected member are not capable anymore to assume their duties, the member shall propose another representative with the similar professional profile as the initially proposed representative and his or her alternates. Provisions of Article 5(1) of the Decision apply.

4.2. Selection Criteria for experts applying as organisations

The Commission will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications (points will be given during the assessment as follows) from applicants being organisations:

- (a) **criterion 1** - representativeness, market impact and/or socio-economic impact of the organisation in the domain of electricity infrastructure and other relevant energy issues at Union level (maximum 10 points);
- (b) **criterion 2** – demonstrated scope of competence and experience of the organisation in energy infrastructure issues, in particular as covered by Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council³, as well as the added-value to contribute to the expected outputs of the Group proven by technical and analytical capacity of the organisation (maximum 10 points);
- (c) **criterion 3** – relevant knowledge, policy and analytical experience, hierarchical position of the proposed representative and his or her alternate including their knowledge of the English language (maximum 10 points);

4.3. Supporting evidence for applicants being organisations

Each application shall be structured according to the following sequence and consist of the following supporting document:

- (1) a cover letter (1 page) explaining the motives for answering this call including the type of applicant;

³ Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure and repealing Decision No 1364/2006/EC and amending Regulations (EC) No 713/2009, (EC) No 714/2009 and (EC) No 715/2009 (OJ L 115, 25.4.2013, p. 39)

- (2) a filled and signed organisation declaration form (appendix 1);
- (3) a filled organisation profile form (appendix 2)
- (4) a filled and signed selection criteria form (appendix 3) clearly documenting the professional experience and expertise against the criteria listed in 4.2.
- (5) Curriculum vitae (CV) of the proposed representative and his or her alternate, preferably not exceeding three pages and in English, where applicants must document their professional experience and expertise in full. The CV should also contain information on the following aspects:
 - (a) the organisation for which the applicant is working, the length of time he/she has been worked there, and the position and level of responsibility;
 - (b) other authorities/organisations, for which he/she has worked in the past;
 - (c) his/her specific competences, notably in relation to the EU electricity infrastructure issues;
 - (d) the specific projects and or tasks he/she has been involved in;
 - (e) any relevant work that he/she has published;
 - (f) any experience he/she has acquired at EU and international level;
 - (g) his/her major professional challenges foreseen in the near future;
 - (h) any interests that he/she has, which may prejudice his or her independence.

All CVs should be submitted in the European format: <http://euopass.cedefop.europa.eu/euopass/home/vernav/Euopass+Documents/Europass+CV.csp>

4.4. Selection Criteria for experts applying in their personal capacity

Members applying in their personal capacity shall be individuals with outstanding knowledge in the field of European energy policy with a particular focus on internal energy market and energy infrastructure. The members in their personal capacity shall act independently and in the public interest. They should not be currently affiliated to any relevant organisation.

The Commission will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications for members in their personal capacity:

- (a) **criterion 1** – relevance and duration of the professional experience (maximum 10 points);

- (b) **criterion 2** – degree and recognition of expertise in the field proven by the previous positions and their level of responsibility (maximum 10 points);
- (c) **criterion 3** – accumulated experience and knowledge in the field of internal energy market and electricity infrastructure proven by relevant publications, analytical work, active participation in relevant conferences, working groups, research projects and other relevant activities (maximum 10 points);

4.5. Supporting evidence for applicants being individuals in their personal capacity

Each application shall be structured according to the following sequence and include the following supporting document:

- (1) a signed cover letter explaining the motives for answering this call (1 page);
- (2) a filled and signed selection criteria form (appendix 4) clearly documenting the professional experience and expertise against the criteria listed in 4.4.
- (3) Curriculum vitae (CV) of the applicant preferably not exceeding three pages and in English, where applicants must document their professional experience and expertise in full. The CV should also contain information on the following aspects:
 - (a) organisations and/or authorities, for which he/she has worked in the past and the position and level of responsibility held there;
 - (b) his/her specific competences, notably in relation to the EU electricity infrastructure issues;
 - (c) the specific projects and or tasks he/she has been involved in;
 - (d) any relevant work that he/she has published;
 - (e) any experience he/she has acquired at EU and international level;
 - (f) any interests that he/she has, which may prejudice his or her independence.

All CVs should be submitted in the European format: <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/europass/home/vernav/Europass+Documents/Europass+CV.csp>

5. SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection procedure will consist of an assessment of the applications against the criteria (points will be given as set out in Chapter 4 of this Call and added for each applicant), followed by the establishment of a list of most suitable applicants (based on total points in descending order), and concluded by the appointment of the members of the group and their representatives and alternates, where applicable. In the selection process the Commission will

also endeavour to strike a balance within the Group in terms of representativeness of applicants, gender and geographical origin⁴.

Information on the results of the call for applications will be published on the Internet site of the Directorate-General for Energy. In addition, the successful applicants will be informed by email about their selection.

6. MEETING EXPENSES

Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by participants in the activities of the group shall be reimbursed by the Commission in accordance with the provisions in force at the Commission within the limits of the available budgetary appropriations. Members will receive no remuneration for their duties.

Working language for both documents and meetings will be English.

For any further information, please contact:

- Ms Catharina SIKOW-MAGNY, Head of Unit, e-mail: Catharina.SIKOW@ec.europa.eu, and
- Mr Tomasz JERZYNIAK, e-mail: Tomasz.JERZYNIAK@ec.europa.eu.

⁴ Commission Decision 2000/407/EC of 19 June 2000 relating to gender balance within the committees and expert groups established by it (OJ L 154 of 27.6.2000, p. 34).

Appendix 1: Declaration form

Declaration form⁵

I hereby declare the following:

This application for participation in the Expert Group on electricity interconnection targets is made by **an organisation**⁶ as defined in Article 5(1) of the Commission Decision.

Legal name of the organisation:

Date

Name and signature of the authorized representative

⁵ This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application

⁶ In the broad sense of the word including companies, associations, Non-Governmental-Organisations, trade unions, universities, research institutes.

Appendix 2: Organisation profile form

Organisation profile

Legal information (legal entity)	
Organisation's legal name	
Legal status	
Organisation details	
Identification number in the transparency register	
Full address incl. general email address	
Organisation profile as specified in Article 4 (1) points (c), (d) and (e) of the Decision	
Key areas of activity	
Number of employees	
Number of members (if applicable)	
Website	

Contact details for the person authorised to commit the organisation	
Title (Mr, Ms, etc.)	
Surname	
First name	
Position in the organisation	
Contact details	

Representative proposed by the organisation	
Title (Mr, Ms, etc.)	
Surname	

First name	
Positon in the organisation	
Contact details	
Representative's alternate proposed by the organisation	
Title (Mr, Ms, etc.)	
Surname	
First name	
Positon in the organisation	
Contact details	

Appendix 3: Selection criteria form for applicants being organisations

Criterion 1) representativeness, market impact and/or socio-economic impact of the organisation in the domain of energy infrastructure and other relevant energy issues at Union level	
Criterion 2) scope of competence and experience of the organisation in energy infrastructure issues, in particular as covered by Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁷ (TEN-E Regulation)	
Criterion 3) experience and hierarchical position of the proposed representative and his or her alternate including their knowledge of the English language	

Organisation:

Date:

Signature of the authorized representative

⁷ Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure and repealing Decision No 1364/2006/EC and amending Regulations (EC) No 713/2009, (EC) No 714/2009 and (EC) No 715/200 (OJ L 115, 25.4.2013, p. 39)

Appendix 4: Selection criteria form for applicants being individuals in a personal capacity

<p>Criterion 1) Relevance and duration of the experience</p>	
<p>Criterion 2) degree and recognition of expertise in the field proven by the previous positions and level of responsibility</p>	
<p>Criterion 3) accumulated experience and knowledge in the field of internal energy market and electricity infrastructure proven by relevant publications, analytical work, active participation in relevant conferences, working groups, research projects and other relevant events and projects</p>	

Applicant for a member as individual in a personal capacity:

Date:.....

Signature of the applicant