EEIF ENERGY EFFICIENCY INDUSTRIAL FORUM

Brussels, 24 February 2015

European industrial sectors call for putting energy efficiency at the heart of the Energy Union

The Energy Efficiency Industrial Forum (EEIF) welcomes the discussion on the emerging Energy Union and takes this opportunity to present key asks that should be accommodated while framing the Energy Union concept.

"Energy efficiency first"

Energy efficiency should be a cornerstone of the Energy Union and fully recognised as a "first fuel". The analysis presented by the European Commission shows that for every 1% of energy savings made, the EU can reduce its gas imports by an estimated 2.6%.[1]

At a time where energy security is a top priority for the EU, moderating energy demand through cost-effective actions should also be put in the front line and promoted along the entire energy chain from generation, delivery to end-use.

In Europe's energy supply structure, 28% of the gross inland consumption is wasted in energy transformation and distribution, even before it reaches the final user.

As far as final energy consumption is concerned, the buildings sector has a huge energy savings potential. According to the International Energy Agency, 80% of the economic potential of energy efficiency in buildings is still untapped[2]. Consistent efforts to innovate and bring forward ever more efficient solutions and their uptake should thus be enhanced by facilitating buildings' renovation and the replacement of inefficient equipment.

High quality implementation of existing legislation (EPBD, EED, and EL Directives), plus enforcement actions where necessary, are also needed to establish a resilient Energy Union. In order to unlock the EU's energy savings potential, both regulatory and non-regulatory barriers to energy efficiency should be addressed at all levels, under close supervision of the European Commission.

Positive signals to the industry to steer jobs, growth and competitiveness in Europe

An ambitious energy efficiency policy should be coupled with dedicated funding lines if EU energy, sustainability, economic growth and job creation objectives are all to be realised. The implementation of the Juncker plan should thus send a clear signal toward the energy efficiency industry sector.

---

[1] Commission Communication (2014) 520: "Energy Efficiency and its contribution to energy security and the 2030 Framework for climate and energy policy"

[2] International Energy Agency: "World Energy Outlook 2012", (November 2012)

Energy efficiency is a precondition for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the European economy in a cost-effective way.[3]

The overall EU GDP would grow by up to 1.1% per year if EU countries were to fully exploit the potential of energy efficiency according to the International Energy Agency[4]. The European Commission also concluded **additional GDP growth of up to 4.45% by 2030 if 40% energy savings could be achieved[5].**

In terms of jobs, energy efficiency products and services are large providers of local employment at a range of skill and service levels. According to the European Commission, the number of jobs could be increased by up to 3% by 2030 if a 40% energy savings target were implemented[6]. In the building sector, an incremental energy efficiency investment of €1M would create 19 new local jobs[7].

Without ensuring that energy efficiency is put at the core of its actions, the EU will lose valuable energy efficiency gains and economic stimulus, which it critically needs in order to get back on the growth track.

EEIF members are:

ceced

COGEN EUROPE

EFIEES

eurima
European Insulation Manufacturers Association

EPEE
European Partnership for Energy and the Environment

EuroACE
THE EUROPEAN ALLIANCE OF COMPANIES FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN BUILDINGS

LIGHTINGEUROPE
THE VOICE OF THE LIGHTING INDUSTRY

European Copper Institute
Copper Alliance

GLASS FOR EUROPE
Building, Automotive, Solar-Energy Glass

PU EUROPE
EXCELLENCE IN INSULATION

To know more about the Energy Efficiency Industrial Forum, visit www.eeif.eu

---

[3] The European Commission estimated that a 40% energy efficiency target for 2030 would reduce greenhouse gas emissions from buildings by as much as 63% - see Commission Communication (2014) 520: "Energy Efficiency and its contribution to energy security and the 2030 Framework for climate and energy policy"

[4] International Energy Agency: "Capturing the Multiple Benefits of Energy Efficiency" (2014)

[5] Commission Communication (2014) 520: "Energy Efficiency and its contribution to energy security and the 2030 Framework for climate and energy policy"

[6] Commission Communication (2014) 520: "Energy Efficiency and its contribution to energy security and the 2030 Framework for climate and energy policy"

[7] R Janssen and D Staniaszek: "How Many Jobs? A Survey of the Employment Effects of Investment in Energy Efficiency of Buildings", (May 2012)