

Press Release

For more information, please contact:
Fran McCrae
Tel: 02 235 20 16
press@energycoalition.eu

European Parliament backs energy efficiency target for 2030

Brussels, 14 March 2013 – Today, in its approval of the report on the Energy Roadmap 2050, the European Parliament voted in favour of setting three post-2020 targets for energy efficiency, renewable energy and greenhouse gas emissions.

This vote shows strong support within the Parliament for energy efficiency, which has come under deregulation pressure as the European Commission prepares its views for the forthcoming 2030 EU climate and energy policy framework.

"MEPs have made an important and timely endorsement of the continuation of energy efficiency policies and recognised that this means setting a 2030 target for energy efficiency", said Stefan Scheuer, Secretary General of the Coalition for Energy Savings. "This is a clear signal that we need to face the challenges related to energy costs and competitiveness with a comprehensive set of mutually reinforcing targets and that a greenhouse gas target only is not enough."

The report also encourages the Commission to explore a combined "high renewables and high energy efficiency" scenario in developing post-2020 policies.

The Coalition believes that the Commission scenarios are unfavourable to energy efficiency and could consider more energy savings as cost-effective.

Energy efficiency and the resulting savings could help halve the EU's huge €400bn trade deficit, reduce fossil fuel subsidies, cut energy costs and make the greenhouse gas and renewable energy targets cheaper to meet.

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Notes

The Coalition for Energy Savings brings together business, professional, local authorities and civil society associations. The Coalition's purpose is to make the case for a European energy policy that places a much greater, more meaningful emphasis on energy efficiency and savings.

Coalition members represent more than 400 associations, 150 companies, 15 million supporters, more than 2 million employees, 1,000 cities and towns in 30 countries in Europe.

The current members of the Coalition are the Architects' Council of Europe (ACE), Building Performance Institute Europe (BPIE), ClientEarth, Climate Action Network – Europe (CAN-Europe), COGEN Europe, E3G, Energy Cities, European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (EuroACE), European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE), European Association of Polyurethane Insulation Manufacturers (PU Europe), European Climate Foundation, European Committee of Domestic Equipment Manufacturers (CECED), European Copper Institute, European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ecee), European Environmental Bureau (EEB), European Federation for Intelligent Energy Efficiency Services (EFIEES), European Federation of Building and Woodworkers (EFBWW), European Insulation Manufacturers Association (Eurima), European Lamp Companies Federation (ELCF), European Liaison Committee For Social Housing (CECODHAS), European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE), Friends of the Earth Europe, Glass for Europe, Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP), Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and WWF.