

PRESS RELEASE - HEAT COALITION

27 March 2013

“The debate must include heating and cooling” urges the Heat Coalition as the Green Paper “A 2030 framework for climate and energy policies” is published today

According to the **Heat Coalition**, a platform gathering 11 European associations with a stake in the heating and cooling sector, **the forthcoming climate and energy policy framework must adequately address the future role of the heating and cooling sector**, as it accounts for no less than **45% of the final energy consumption in Europe** today¹.

Unfortunately, the stance taken on heating and cooling in the Green Paper confirms the recent conclusion from the **IEA Energy Technology Perspectives publication**, arguing that *“heating and cooling remain neglected areas of energy policy and technology, but their decarbonisation is a fundamental element towards a low carbon economy”*. With virtually no mention of this sector or any reference to the challenges it faces, the Green Paper fails to consider the relevant issues.

However, the Heat Coalition strongly believes that this is the right time to develop a **comprehensive European approach** for heating and cooling towards making energy more affordable and keeping European businesses competitive, **as requested by both the European Parliament and the Council**.

Less than a fortnight ago, the European Parliament responded to the European Commission’s **Energy Roadmap 2050** by calling on the Commission to *“consider the full integration of the heating and cooling sector into the transformation of the energy system”*; stressing that *“readily available renewable energy solutions (geothermal, biomass including biodegradable waste, solar thermal and hydro/aerothermal), in combination with energy efficiency measures, have the potential to decarbonize the heat demand by 2050 in a more cost-effective way, while addressing the problem of energy poverty”*². Moreover, the Council’s conclusions on the **renewable energy Communication**, agreed last December, stated that *“more attention should be paid to the widely untapped potential of renewables in the heating and cooling sector”*.

Given these clear signals from both the European Parliament and the Council, **the heating and cooling sector should be considered as a crucial pillar supporting the 2030 framework**.

Today, **the Heat Coalition calls on the European Commission to put forward a comprehensive strategy**, which must include improved statistics and data collection process, **to promote innovative renewable energy sources and energy efficient solutions throughout the entire energy supply chain**.

¹ European and regional energy models forecast heat demand to remain stable in Europe at least until the 2030 time horizon.

² The report also mentions the importance of *local energy infrastructure* and shows the support of European decision-makers to promote *integrated energy system* featuring amongst others the primary energy saving metrics.



Associations which are members of the Heat Coalition:

AEBIOM is the European Association representing the bioenergy sector in Europe. Its main aim is to develop the market for sustainable bioenergy such as bio heat, electricity from biomass and biofuels (including biogas).

Cecodhas Housing Europe is the Federation of social, cooperative and public housing, a network of national and regional social housing federations

CEWEP is the European umbrella association of Waste-to-Energy Plants. They thermally treat household and similar waste (not suitable for recycling) and transform it into energy, which is delivered to citizens and industry.

COGEN Europe is the European Association for the Promotion of Cogeneration. Its principal goal is to work towards the wider use of cogeneration in Europe for a sustainable energy future.

EFIEES is the European Federation of Intelligent Energy Efficiency Services, represents private companies (Energy Efficiency Services Companies, EESCs) providing an overall energy management service to end-user.

EGEC is the European Geothermal Energy Council, an international non-profit association, whose aim is to promote the use of geothermal energy in Europe.

EHI, the Association of the European Heating Industry, represents and promotes the common interests of 35 market leading companies and 13 national associations in the European thermal comfort sector, which produce advanced technologies for heating in buildings, including: boilers, burners, heat pumps, micro CHP, solar thermal, geothermal, biomass and radiators.

EHPA, the European Heat Pump Association, represents stakeholders from all parts of the heat pump industries value chain in Europe. Its main target is the technologies proper recognition in European legislation and the dissemination of related information

Energy Cities is the European Association of local authorities inventing their energy future.

ESTIF is the European Solar Thermal Industry Federation representing the whole value chain of solar thermal from research and testing to manufacturers and service providers

Euroheat & Power is the international association representing the district heating and cooling (DHC) sector in Europe and beyond.