



Press Release

The ENERGY-EFFICIENCY-WATCH presents its first results: Energy Efficiency has to be taken more seriously

Brussels, Friday 27th June 2008

The ENERGY-EFFICIENCY-WATCH (EEW) goal is to ensure ambitious national energy efficiency action plans (NEEAP) in all EU Member States. The scientific partners of the EEW – Wuppertal Institute and Ecofys – published the first results of their NEEAP screening. They come to the conclusion that the plans offer very heterogeneous designs, contents and levels of information.

The overall impression is that the issue of Energy Efficiency is not taken seriously enough. Though this area offers a high potential and is a huge opportunity to reach Europe's 2020 targets as announced in the Commission's climate change package. Energy efficiency is not only linked with the saving of energy and therefore the reduction of emissions but it is also a condition for energy security by reducing energy dependency on oil.

The Energy Efficiency and Energy Service Directive (ESD) requires Member States to achieve a **reduction target in end-energy use of 9% by 2016**, and therefore to submit three **National Energy Efficiency Action Plans** (NEEAPs) to show on how they are planning to reach that goal. The first NEEAP was due by June 30, 2007.

Within the Energy Efficiency Watch project, Wuppertal Institute and Ecofys carried out a **screening of all available plans**. Only **few MS took the deadline seriously** but by today almost all Member States have submitted an action plan. In a second phase the EEW will now evaluate 12 of the NEEAPs in depths to find out best policy practices that then can be communicated all over Europe as advice for the second round of NEEAPs in 2011.

The first screening identified very heterogeneous designs, contents and levels of information provided. In most cases, the relationship between technical energy saving potentials, energy saving targets and energy efficiency improvement measures, is weak or not transparent. Nevertheless, a very illustrative and impressive collection of measures exists that enables international mutual learning.

Ralf Schüle, Wuppertal Institute: "Additionally, the collection of measures broadens thinking about energy efficiency from isolated measures to coherent policy packages. But what we need now is a harmonisation of the NEEAPs and the evaluation methods."

All results are available at:

<http://www.energy-efficiency-watch.org/index.php?id=49>

Background

Energy Efficiency Watch

In September 2007 the Energy Efficiency Watch (EEW), following a Parliamentary call and coordinated by EUFORES, was officially launched. The project monitors and highlights best/worst policy practice of political and legislative measures, instruments and activities in the field of en-



ENERGY EFFICIENCY WATCH



ergy efficiency within the framework of the “National Energy Efficiency Action Plans” (NEEAPs). In a second step it will inform about the results and offer advice on the drafting and implementation of the NEEAPs.

The Energy Efficiency Watch project is supported by Parliamentarians, the European Commission as well as by various NGOs and industry associations.

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