



european
council for an
energy efficient
economy

2009-04-22

To Members of the European Parliament

By e-mail

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

It is the view of the European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, eceee, that the recast of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive is one of the most important pieces of new legislation that will come forward this year. We welcome the hard work and the decisions made by the ITRE committee on this proposal, led by its rapporteur, Ms. Silvia-Adriana Ticau. There is no doubt that the Committee also realises the many implications and the potential impact this recast will have.

We understand that, with only weeks to go before Parliamentary elections, focus is obviously changing towards constituencies. But the task at hand must be completed. The Commission's proposal has an estimated impact of 60-80 Mtoe in 2020, meaning that total EU energy consumption can be reduced by 5-6 %. If the proposed amendments of the European Parliament for strengthening the Commission proposal are adopted in plenary, the impact will be even greater. And the overall impact also includes a major contribution to EU climate change policy, greater energy security, new employment possibilities, development and deployment of new technologies, as well as health and comfort benefits. The European Union will show important leadership if this legislation is highlighted as a major element of our overall climate change package when negotiations are underway in Copenhagen at COP 15 in December.

While eceee has provided detailed comments on almost all of the Articles in the draft proposal, we would like to stress just a few points that are fundamental to a vibrant, ambitious but realistic recast:

- Addressing existing buildings is key and the ITRE Committee has addressed that.
- There is a need to ensure that minimum energy performance requirements for buildings are set, with a view to achieving at least cost-optimal levels. The ITRE Committee has addressed that.
- There is a need to focus on net zero energy buildings through national plans and targets. The ITRE Committee has addressed that.
- There is a need to improve the effectiveness and credibility of the Energy Performance Certificate. The ITRE Committee has addressed that.

eceee hopes that the European Parliament will take that next step and keep the momentum going by adopting an ambitious first reading report and resolution, with strong but realistic amendments that truly reflect the importance of this piece of Community legislation.

Sincerely,

President of eceee

eceee is Europe's largest NGO focused solely on Energy Efficiency. Visit our web site at www.eceee.org.

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