

Consultation on the Review of Directive 2012/27/EU on Energy Efficiency

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Introduction



This consultation is launched to collect views and suggestions from different stakeholders and citizens in view of the review of Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency (Energy Efficiency Directive or EED), foreseen for the second half of 2016.

This review plays a prominent role as the Commission called on Member States to treat energy efficiency as an energy source in its own right in its Energy Union Strategy of 25 February 2015.

The European Council of October 2014 agreed on an EU objective of saving at least 27% of energy by 2030 compared to projections and requested the Commission to review the target by 2020 “having in mind an EU level of 30%”. The existing policy framework should therefore be updated to reflect the new EU energy efficiency target for 2030 and to align it with the overall 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy.

Energy efficiency policies have been put in place by the EU for some time now and they have delivered tangible results. The Energy Efficiency Directive, Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, Energy Labelling Directive and EcoDesign Directive are the key building blocks of the current energy efficiency framework. Many climate policies, such as the CO₂ performance standards for passenger cars and light commercial vehicles, also make a major contribution to improving energy efficiency. Thanks to these instruments, significant progress has been achieved by Member States in terms of energy savings over the past (five) years, contributing to the overall 2020 energy and climate policy objectives.

Public funding has played an important role by supporting the implementation of energy efficiency policies at national and regional level. There has been an increase in financing over the last years

due to greater importance of these policies in the context of the overall EU decarbonisation agenda. The European Structural and Investments Funds (ESIF) and the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) are key to unlocking the needed private investments for energy efficiency. On the other hand, the effectiveness and impact of energy efficiency investment funding strongly depends (inter alia) on the implementation of the energy efficiency legislation, including the Energy Efficiency Directive.

Many measures taken by Member States today will, in fact, continue contributing to the energy efficiency targets and to the broader energy and climate policy framework beyond 2020. Since the Energy Efficiency Action Plan was adopted in 2011, the situation has greatly improved: primary energy consumption has continued to fall across the Union, with steady economic growth, and many Member States have successfully strengthened their national energy efficiency programmes.

In line with the requirement of the EED (Article 3(2)), an assessment was carried out by the Commission in 2014 to review progress towards the EU 20% energy efficiency target for 2020, the findings of which were presented in the Energy Efficiency Communication, adopted on 23 July 2014. An updated analysis of how Member States are achieving the 20% 2020 target on energy efficiency will be published as part of the State of the Energy Union package in November 2015.

Given the recent implementation date of the EED, this consultation focuses on examining the following elements of Directive:

Article 1 (subject matter and scope) and Article 3 (energy efficiency target): As required by the European Council of October 2014, which agreed the EU objective of saving at least 27% of energy by 2030 compared to projections and requested the Commission to review the target by 2020 “having in mind [a level of savings of] 30%”.

Article 6 (purchasing by public bodies of energy efficient buildings, goods and services): As required by the reporting obligation under Article 24(8) to review the effectiveness of implementation of Article 6.

Article 7 (energy efficiency obligation schemes): As required by the reporting obligation under Article 24(9) on the implementation of Article 7 and the need to address the obligation period that will expire after 2020.

Articles 9 – 11 (metering, billing information and cost of access to metering and billing information): Consumer related aspects touched upon in these Articles are also addressed in the Internal Market Design/Delivering a New Deal for Energy Consumers initiative launched in parallel.

Article 20 (energy efficiency national fund, financing and technical support): The European Fund for Strategic Investments (Junker Plan) raises the importance to address the market gaps for energy efficiency investments.

Article 24 (reporting and monitoring and review of implementation): Given the new governance system to be introduced under the Energy Union in view of 2030 framework, currently being prepared in parallel to this exercise.

The questions of this consultation on the above articles are formulated so as to respect the requirements of the recently adopted Better Regulation Package and to ensure that the results of this consultation are fed into two parallel processes: first, to assess whether relevant measures are efficient, effective, and coherent with the broader EU legislative framework, and second, to identify the most appropriate policy options to be considered for reviewing specific aspects of the EED as part of the impact assessment.

Against this background, questions of a general nature for the general public are included in Part I. A set of questions of a technical nature for a more expert public is included in Part II. Respondents are invited to reply within the two parts to all the questions they consider relevant.

Information about the respondent

*** Are you answering on behalf of an organisation or institution?**

- Yes, I am answering on behalf of an organisation or institution
 No, I am answering as an individual

*** Please enter the full name of your organisation or institution:**

100 character(s) maximum

European Biomass Association (AEBIOM)

*** Please enter your full name and position title:**

100 character(s) maximum

Jean-Marc Jossart, Secretary General

*** Please enter your email address:**

jossart@aebiom.org

*** Please specify which category best describes your organisation or institution from the list below:**

- Central public authority
 Local public authority
 Private company
 Utility
 International organisation
 Workers organisation/association/trade union
 Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
 Industry/business association
 Other interest group organisation/association
 Consultancy
 University
 Think Tank/research institute
 Political party/organization
 Other

*** Does your organisation or institution primarily deal with energy issues?**

- Yes
- No

*** Please indicate your principal country or countries of residence or activity:**

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- Other

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- Under the name indicated (I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is under copyright restrictions that prevent publication)
- Anonymously (I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is under copyright restrictions that prevent publication)
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Part I – General questions

1. Article 1: Subject matter and scope and Article 3: Energy efficiency target

Article 1 provides the general framework for the promotion of energy efficiency within the Union in order to ensure the achievement of the EU 20% energy efficiency headline target by 2020. In addition and more specifically, **Article 3** requires that each Member State sets an indicative national energy efficiency target based on either primary or final energy consumption, primary or final energy savings or energy intensity. In setting the targets, Member States should take into account a number of provisions set out in Article 3(1).

As regards the EU energy efficiency target for 2030, the European Council agreed in October 2014 on an indicative target at the EU level of at least 27% (compared to projections) to be reviewed by 2020 having in mind an EU level of 30%. Therefore, the existing policy framework should be updated to reflect the new EU energy efficiency target for 2030 and to align it with the overall 2030 Climate and Energy framework.

1.1. What is the key contribution of the EED to the achievement of the 2020 energy efficiency target?

1000 character(s) maximum

1.2. How has the EED worked together with the Effort Sharing Decision, other energy efficiency legislation (on buildings, products and transport) and ETS? Could you describe positive synergies or overlaps?

1000 character(s) maximum

1.3. How has the EED worked together with existing national legislation? Could you describe any positive synergies or overlaps?

1000 character(s) maximum

1.4. What are the main lessons learned from the implementation of the EED?

1000 character(s) maximum

It is still early to draw definitive conclusions. Some non-exhaustive conclusions are:

- a) Measures triggering renovation of the existing building stock are so far not sufficient;
- b) In the building sector deep renovation including the replacement of heating systems are more effective than a quick-fix-approach limited to insulation which can lock-in technologies not compatible with decarbonisation;
- c) In the heat sector energy efficiency and renewable energy go hand in hand and face similar barriers; a cost-optimal approach should apply between reducing energy demand and providing sustainable supply (RES + waste heat) bearing in mind the decarbonisation objective;
- d) There is a need to develop a system which brings liquidity into the energy services and heat markets;
- e) The EEO schemes should be strengthened to take into account the above considerations.
- f) EU public accounting and finance rules need to be reviewed to promote investments in the public sector

1.5. Which factors should the Commission have in mind in reviewing the EU energy efficiency target for 2030?

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An important factor to take into account is the synergies between energy efficiency and renewables (RES). Focusing on energy efficiency alone can lead to a lock-in use of fossil energy and a slowdown of renewable energy uptake. Indeed, a factory that renews its gas boiler to increase energy efficiency is at the same time committing to continue using gas for at least 20 more years. In this way focusing on energy efficiency alone can slow down renewable energy uptake considerably and put the EU long-term decarbonisation objectives at risk. Therefore it is fundamental that the new energy efficiency directive makes a clear link between EE objectives and RES and GHG emissions objectives and promote the fact that the replacement of fossil fuels by renewable energy is leading to energy savings but also contributes to RES and GHG emissions reduction objectives.

If monitoring shows that EE measures do not lead to GHG emission reduction, additional EE efforts would have to be done.

1.6. What should the role of the EU be in view of achieving the new EU energy efficiency target for 2030?

1000 character(s) maximum

It should be to monitor closely if MS properly implement the EED provisions, and trigger commitments (e.g. in national climate and energy plans) at national and local levels. EC should assess MS's efforts, provide guidance

(e.g. in State of the Energy Union report) and take action in case of lack of accountability or failure to deliver.

The EU should also ensure coherence among its legislations by linking its long-term climate and energy objectives (2050 3 no regrets options: energy efficiency, renewables and infrastructure) with financing mechanisms. Access to EU funding could be conditional to energy efficiency and RES projects, State Aid and EUROSTAT rules on public finance rules could be reviewed for special status to EE and climate-related investments as well as EU taxation law (to promote green VAT).

The EU should ensure that inflated claims of efficiency gains in obligation systems that are not reflected in energy and GHG statistics lead to additional EE measures.

1.7. What is the best way of expressing the new EU energy efficiency target for 2030:

- Expressed as energy intensity
- Expressed in an absolute amount of final energy savings
- Expressed in both primary and final energy consumption in 2030
- Expressed only in primary energy consumption in 2030
- Expressed only in final energy consumption in 2030
- Other

1.8. For the purposes of the target, should energy consumption be:

- Expressed as energy, regardless of its source (as now)
- Expressed as avoided non-renewable energy
- Expressed as avoided fuel-use (but including biomass)
- Other

Please specify 'Other':

100 character(s) maximum

Expressed as energy, but with reference to avoided non-renewable energy and avoided CO2 emissions

2. Article 6: Purchasing by public bodies of energy efficient buildings, goods and services

One of the objectives of the EED is to improve and strengthen energy efficiency through public procurement. **Article 6** of the Directive states that Member States shall ensure that central governments purchase only products, services and buildings with a high energy-efficiency performance. The central governments of the Member States should “lead by example” so that local and regional procurement bodies also strengthen energy efficiency in their public procurement procedures.

The Commission is carrying out an assessment of Article 6 of the EED and the preliminary findings show a rather limited experience in the Member States so far in implementing the requirements of Article 6. One of the main barriers to implementing the requirements is the lack of clarity and

guidance across the existing EU rules on public procurement. On the other hand, experiences in some Member States indeed demonstrate that the measures required by the EED on public procurement have helped to educate and involve procurement bodies in the use of energy efficiency criteria, spreading the exemplary role of central governments also at regional and local levels.

2.1. In your view, are the existing EU energy efficiency requirements for public procurement sufficient to achieve the needed impact of energy savings?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

No, the scope of Article 6 EED is too narrow (obligation applies to central governments only)

2.2. How could public procurement procedures be improved in the future with regard to high energy efficiency performance?

1000 character(s) maximum

2.3. Do you think that there is sufficient guidance in your country to characterise "energy efficient products, services and buildings"?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

2.4. Have you seen information campaigns or other public initiatives in your or in another EU country that explain public procurement of energy efficient products, services and buildings?

- Yes
 No

3. Article 7: Energy efficiency obligation schemes

Article 7 together with Annex V requires that Member States set up an energy efficiency obligation scheme to ensure that obligated parties (energy distributors and/or retail energy sales companies that are designated by each Member State) achieve a given amount of energy savings (1.5% annually) from annual energy sales to final customers over the period 2014 to 2020. As an alternative to setting up an energy efficiency obligation scheme, Member States may opt to take other policy measures to achieve energy savings among final customers to reach the same amount of savings.

The Commission is required to assess the implementation of this Article and submit a report by 30 June 2016 to the European Parliament and the Council, and, if appropriate, to supplement the report with a legislative proposal for amendments.

In line with the EED, Member States had to notify the measures and methodologies on implementation of Article 7 by 5 December 2013. Further information from Member States was received in the notified National Energy Efficiency Action Plans (due by April 2014).

According to the latest available information from the notifications received from Member States, 16 Member States notified an energy efficiency obligation scheme by putting an obligation on utilities to reach the required cumulative energy savings by 2020 under Article 7. Four Member States out of these (Bulgaria, Denmark, Luxembourg and Poland) will use it as the only instrument to achieve the required energy savings. 12 Member States (Austria, Croatia, Estonia, France, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Slovenia, Spain and United Kingdom) will use the obligation scheme in combination with alternative measures. On the other hand, 12 Member States (Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Finland, Hungary, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden) have opted to only use the alternative measures to reach the required savings instead of putting obligations on utilities.

3.1. Are you aware of any energy efficiency measures that have been carried out or are planned in your country, by the utilities or third parties in response to an energy efficiency obligation scheme?

- Yes
 No
 No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

Yes, in Austria.
The most frequently realized measures in the Austrian obligation system was the installation of new fossil fuel fired heating systems, mainly oil and gas boilers, as high energy savings are associated with the switch to condensing boilers. This has led to a decline of RES uptake for heating and will facilitate fossil energy use in the related households for decades to come

(lock-in effect).

This is why it is essential that EE measures are linked to 2030 and 2050 GHG emissions and RES objectives and that the EED promotes the switch to RES as an EE measure allowing to reduce GHG emissions at the same time.

3.2. In your view, is Article 7 (energy efficiency obligation scheme or alternative measures) an effective instrument to achieve final energy savings?

- Yes
 No

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

Yes, but with undesirable lock-in effect, hampering RES deployment and long-term GHG reduction, which is not in line with EU Energy Roadmap 2050. See Q 3.1 - example of lock-in effect in Austria.

In order to avoid this lock-in effect, Article 7 obligation should be linked to GHG and RES objectives. Monitoring should not only take energy savings into account, but also GHG emissions and RES deployment.

National obligation schemes after 2020 should be built on market-based instrument to trigger energy efficiency and fuel switch to RES in buildings. The revised article 7 should :

- Be more ambitious and clearly include renewables for heating and cooling (both on-site and nearby);
- Aim to develop a true market (e.g. through a national white certificate systems bringing liquidity into the market) and to fully develop energy services in the residential sector;
- Counterbalance the fact that in most cases carbon emissions are not priced in the building sector (as a non-ETS sector).

3.3. What are, in your view, the main challenges or barriers to implementing Article 7 effectively and efficiently in your country? Please select up to 5 options from the list.

at most 5 choice(s)

- To select or introduce the right set of measures for achieving 1.5% energy savings (annually)
- Too great flexibility to use wide range of measures: energy efficiency obligation scheme and alternative measures
- Strong opposition from energy suppliers and distributors to set up an energy efficiency obligation scheme
- Lack of effective enforcement
- Lack of sufficient knowledge and skills of involved parties
- Lack of awareness (by the end-users) of the energy efficiency obligation schemes or alternative measures
- Developing the calculation methodology in line with the requirements of Annex V
- Ensuring sound and independent monitoring and verification of energy savings
- Avoiding double counting
- High administrative burden

- Ensuring consistent application of the requirements with other energy efficiency legislation (e.g. building codes)
- Limited timeframe (2014-2020) that makes it hard to attract investment for long term measures
- Other

3.4. Do you believe that the current 1.5% level of energy savings per year from final energy sales is adequate?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

The way Article 7 is being implemented today mainly incentives quick fix measures. EE measures put in place under Article 7 should lead to changes in terms of energy savings, but also in terms of energy sources and therefore CO2 emissions. The current article 7 allows taking into account the energy savings from the replacement of conventional heating systems to RES heating systems, but this is rarely promoted and applied. It should be avoided that the replacement of inefficient fossil fuels by more efficient fossil fuels (e.g. oil and gas boilers) which risk to lock in technologies not compatible with the long term decarbonisation objective (and that not significantly improve security of supply).

3.5. Should energy efficiency obligation schemes have specific rules about energy savings amongst vulnerable consumers?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

4. Articles 9-11: Metering, billing information and cost of access to metering and billing information

Articles 9-11 deal with consumer empowerment, by asking Member States to put in place requirements about metering, access to billing information and cost of access to metering and billing information, allowing consumers to make decisions about their energy consumption. These issues are also currently being looked at within the Electricity Market Design/Delivering a New Deal for Energy Consumers initiative. It may be relevant to consider certain aspects of these Articles in the EED review. The same is true for the subject of "demand response" (as set out in paragraph 8 of Article 15, but on this topic explicit questions were already included in the Market Design consultative communication published in July 2015).

4.1. Overall adequacy: Do you think the EED provisions on metering and billing (Articles 9-11) are sufficient to guarantee all consumers easily accessible, sufficiently frequent, detailed and understandable information on their own consumption of energy (electricity, gas, heating, cooling, hot water)?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

4.2. Do you think it appropriate that the requirement to provide individual metering and frequent billing (Articles 9(1), 9(3) and 10(1)) is subject to it being technically feasible and/or cost effective?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

4.3. Should such conditions of being technically feasible and/or cost effective be harmonised across the EU?

- Yes

- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

4.4. How would these conditions of being technically feasible and/or cost effective affect the potential for energy savings and consumer empowerment?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

4.5. Smart meters: Do you think that A) the EED requirements regarding smart metering systems for electricity and natural gas and consumption feedback and B) the common minimum functionalities, for example to provide readings directly to the customer or to update readings frequently, recommended by the Commission (C(2012)1342) together provide a sufficient level of harmonisation at EU level?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

4.6. What obstacles have national authorities/actors faced in introducing on a large scale individual meters that accurately reflect the final customer's actual energy consumption? Do you have any good experiences to share on how to overcome these obstacles?

1000 character(s) maximum

5. Article 20: Energy efficiency national fund, financing and technical support

The analysis of the July 2014 Energy Efficiency Communication and the recent EEFIG Report showed that the energy efficiency investment market is still relatively small scale compared to its potential or the volumes needed to meet the EU's 2030 objectives. The European Structural and Investments Funds address the market gaps related to investment projects including those in energy efficiency, and the European Fund for Strategic Investments provides EU guarantee for investment projects – including those for energy efficiency. The European Energy Efficiency Fund carries relevant lessons.

Moreover, significant funding for energy efficiency comes from national public sources and the private sector. The effectiveness and impact of energy efficiency investments funding strongly depends (inter alia) on the implementation of the energy efficiency legislation, including the EED.

5.1. What should be the most appropriate financing mechanisms to significantly increase energy efficiency investments in view of the 2030 target?

1000 character(s) maximum

A well-functioning market created by obligations could be an effective way to finance efficiency measures (through certificates). It is critical however, to compare the estimated energy savings of the reported measures with the actual CO2 reduction and to adjust or manage the obligation schemes accordingly. The development of EE and RES being EU's long-term energy objectives (EU Energy Roadmap 2050), financial mechanisms should be designed in such a way they are favourable to EE and RES development. As an example, a EE and RES conditionality could be added to the granting of EU money (e.g. modernization fund, structural funds). EUROSTAT rules on public finance (for special status to energy and climate-related investments) should also be reviewed. Consistency among EU legislation is crucial to avoid promoting EE and RES on the one hand, and establishing a security of supply strategy based on new gas infrastructures investments on the other hand.

5.2. Should there be specific provisions aimed at facilitating investment in specific areas of energy efficiency?

Yes

- No
- No opinion

If yes, specify your answer from the below list:

- Building renovation
- Efficient appliances and equipment in households
- District heating and cooling network development
- Energy use by industries
- SMEs
- Companies
- City and community infrastructures in relation to transport, waste heat recovery, waste-to-energy
- Other

Please specify 'Other':

100 character(s) maximum

5.3. Do you agree that one way to increase the impact of energy efficiency investments could be through making the energy performance/savings monitoring mandatory under Article 20 whenever public funds/subsidies are used for EE investments? Such monitoring could be done, for example, via on-line platforms, by users in the regular intervals.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- No opinion

6. Article 24: Reporting and monitoring and review of implementation

The Energy Union Strategy foresees an integrated governance framework for EU energy and climate policies to ensure that agreed climate and energy targets are reached and to enable Member States to better coordinate their policies at a regional level.

6.1. Do you think that the existing reporting and monitoring system under the EED is a useful tool to track developments with regard to energy efficiency in Member States?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

If yes, why is it a useful tool?

1000 character(s) maximum

The reporting system is in line with current EED but a new reporting system under the Energy Union is needed to strengthen the synergies between various pieces of legislation (EPBD, RED) and with EU's long-term climate and energy objectives i.e. RES deployment and GHG emission savings.

There should be a dedicated part on buildings (mentioning renovation rates, NZEBs, etc.) and more on heating and cooling (RES share, industry, etc.). Generally, the level of details should be higher and templates should be standardised.

6.2. Do you think that the reporting of national indicators (for example, value added/ energy consumption, disposable income, GDP etc. for year (n-2) under Annex XIV (1)(a)) of the EED should be simplified?

- Yes
 No
 No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

6.3. Do you think additional indicators (in addition to those referred to in Annex XIV (1)(a) – (e)) are needed to improve monitoring to assess Member States' progress towards their energy efficiency targets?

- Yes
 No
 No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

Progress should be measured by monitoring CO2 emissions as compound measure for RES and EE progress. It is the compound progress which matters because EE and RES have similar effects regarding the goals of EU energy policy.

The "Submit" button is located at the end of Part II. If you wish to only respond to questions in Part I, skip the questions in Part II and click "Submit" at the bottom of the next page.

Part II – Technical questions (on Articles 6 and 7)

7. Article 6: Purchasing by public bodies of energy efficient buildings, goods and services

7.1. Do you believe that measures on public procurement of energy efficient products, services and buildings should become mandatory also for public bodies at regional and local levels?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

Yes. And the exemplary role of public buildings' energy performance, should also be extended to local and regional levels. The obligations should also refer to the use of renewable energy wherever applicable.

7.2. In your view, what are the main barriers that preventing the use of energy efficiency requirements in the existing public procurement procedures (please select from the list and explain your reply:

- There is a lack of awareness about the use of energy efficiency requirements in public procurement
- There is insufficient expertise and/or knowledge on the use of energy efficiency requirements in public procurement
- Thresholds are too high which is why energy efficiency requirements do not apply to many contracts
- Incompatibility of energy efficiency requirements with other procurement criteria (sustainable requirements, low price, safety requirements, technical requirements)
- Higher energy efficiency criteria in public procurements may imply higher prices
- Lack of clarity of the energy efficiency requirements for public procurement
- Energy efficiency requirements for public procurement are not very clear and difficult to check
- Other

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

7.3. In your view, should all EU public procurement rules relating to sustainability (including in particular energy efficiency in buildings, the use of renewable energy sources, etc.) be gathered into a single EU guidance framework?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

Yes, the EU should develop one guidance framework addressing all the procurement aspects, rules and sectors, and in particular to accelerate the development of common Green Public Procurement criteria. Meanwhile, clearer reference needs to be made in the EED and RES-D to Ecodesign and Energy Labelling. Public authorities should, for instance, only buy products with the best existing energy label.

7.4. Do you think that there is sufficient guidance/framework to know what is meant by "energy efficient products, services and buildings"?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

7.5. While energy efficient products will be cheaper to operate, their initial cost might be higher and a longer period of time will be needed to "pay back" this higher cost. Is this a problem and if so, how can public authorities overcome it?

1000 character(s) maximum

Public accounting and finance rules should be revised in order not to hamper public investments in EE and RES.

8. Article 7: Energy efficiency obligation schemes

8.1. Emerging evidence suggests that most of the measures introduced under Article 7 have long lifetimes (20-30 years) and will continue have an impact beyond 2020. Do you share this view?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

In the building sector, some measures introduced (on the level of building envelope and replacement of heating systems) have long lifetimes. This is why only the most efficient and renewable technologies should be eligible to meet this obligation. The replacement of inefficient fossil fuel technologies by more efficient but always fossil-based heating appliances risks to lock-out efficient and renewable technologies needed to decarbonise the sector.

8.2. What is your view on the potential benefits (listed) of energy efficiency obligation schemes?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion
Lower energy bills for consumers	<input type="radio"/>				
Better awareness of energy efficiency potential by consumers	<input type="radio"/>				
Better relationship between energy suppliers, distributors and customers	<input type="radio"/>				
Lower energy generation (and transmission) costs for the utilities	<input type="radio"/>				
Improved business and administrative environment for up-coming innovative energy services	<input type="radio"/>				
Aggregation of small-scale investments (pooling/bundling)	<input type="radio"/>				
Development of new financing models – e.g.					

energy performance contracting	<input type="radio"/>				
Stimulation of energy efficient renovation of buildings	<input type="radio"/>				
Increased competitiveness in the energy markets	<input type="radio"/>				
Other	<input type="radio"/>				

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

8.3. Are you aware of any developments in the energy services markets that have benefited particular actors (e.g. service providers, suppliers, distributors, etc.) in Member States having an obligation to define the obligated parties under the energy efficiency obligation scheme?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

8.4. If you think that some requirements of Annex V need more precise guidance please list those requirements and specify briefly what further information you think would be useful.

1000 character(s) maximum

8.5. As you might know, the current framework of Article 7 is set until 2020, linked to the energy efficiency target for 2020, which will expire at the end of 2020. In your view, should the Article 7 obligations continue beyond 2020 in view of the new energy efficiency target for 2030?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

If yes, what factors should be considered for the future Article 7 (please select up to 5 options from the list, and explain your reply if possible):

at most 5 choice(s)

- The amount of savings to be achieved should be set at a more ambitious level for post 2020 (exceeding the existing 1.5%)
- The energy efficiency obligations scheme should be kept as the only possible instrument to achieve the required savings
- The possibility to choose between the energy efficiency obligations scheme and/or alternative measures should be retained
- The possibility to exclude sales in transport from the baseline should be removed
- The possibility to exclude sales in transport from the baseline should be kept but restricted to the fixed amount to ensure the level playing field
- The exemptions under paragraph 2 – applying a lower calculation rate (for the first years), and excluding sales in ETS industries, as well as allowing savings from measures targeting energy generation and supply – should be removed altogether
- The exemptions under paragraph 2 should be retained but the level and number of exemptions should be reviewed
- The possibility for 'banking and borrowing' energy savings from different years should be removed (paragraph 7(c))
- The possibility for 'banking and borrowing' energy savings should be kept with a possibility to count savings towards the next obligation period (paragraph 7(c))
- Other

Please specify 'Other':

100 character(s) maximum

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

1: Increase the savings level and monitor that these savings contribute to RES and GHG reduction objectives

3: Possibility to choose should be retained but existing schemes should be kept and further developed.

4: Exclusion of energy use for transport makes no sense - all energy suppliers must contribute to savings

9: Banking and borrowing should be kept as well as transfer to new obligation period. This reduces the volatility of prices for energy saving measures

significantly.

10 (other): Strengthen the European monitoring role and verify if claimed savings match actual energy statistics. Take actions in case there is a mismatch and claims of efficiency measures are inflated.

8.6. Do you think that the scope of eligible measures allowed under Article 7 should be clarified?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

If yes, please explain your answer further:

- The scope of eligible measures should only be end-use energy savings (as it is at the moment)
- The scope of eligible measures should be expanded
- Other

If the scope should be expanded, please specify which of the following possibilities would be appropriate:

- Measures to switch fossil fuel heating and cooling fully or partially to renewable energy (e.g. through individual appliances, district heating and cooling, centralised distributed units supplying larger building complexes or groups of buildings)
- Measures to increase efficiency of district network infrastructure and generation, including through thermal storage facilities
- Measures to make energy generation from small scale generation more efficient, below the ETS threshold
- Switch to self-consumption, auto-generation and energy positive buildings
- Participation in demand response, including from providing storage capacities
- Primary energy savings from the utilisation and recovery of waste heat (e.g. in district networks)
- Savings from energy management systems
- Energy savings from better organisation of activities
- Other

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

Measures to switch fossil fuel heating and cooling fully or partially to renewable energy are particularly important in order to avoid a lock-in effect in fossil fuels use. In fact, in some Member States, the obligation scheme lead to the replacement of old oil and gas boilers by new oil and gas boilers which perpetuates the use of these fuels for heating for another 3 decades. This is not in line with long-term EU decarbonisation goal. In fact, the EU has committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 80-95% below 1990 levels by 2050 (EU Energy Roadmap 2050). This will not happen if a greater coherence between EE, RES and GHG emission reduction measures is not ensured. The EU will not reach its GHG reduction commitment if it locks itself in long term

fossil installations (replacement of old fossil boilers with new, more efficient fossil boilers) and infrastructures (investments in gas pipelines and LNG infrastructures).

8.7. Would there be benefits in greater harmonisation of some of the requirements of Article 7 to allow more consistent implementation across Member States?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion
Calculation methods	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Materiality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Additionality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lifetimes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Price demand elasticities for taxation measures in real terms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Indicative list of eligible energy saving measures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Monitoring and verification procedures	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reporting	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

8.8. What role should the EU play in assisting the Member States in the implementation of Article 7?

1000 character(s) maximum

The EU should assess MS's efforts, provide guidance and take action in case of non-compliance. Additionally, the EU should strengthen the synergies in its policies and reduce administrative burden.

8.9. Please state which best practice examples could be promoted across the EU and how?

1000 character(s) maximum

8.10. Would it be appropriate and useful to design a system where some types of energy savings achieved in one Member State would count towards obligations carried out either by governments or by economic operators in another country, just as the option to cooperate on greenhouse gas emissions reductions already exists?

1000 character(s) maximum

8.11. Would it be appropriate and useful to design a system where energy efficiency obligations would also include elements aiming at gradually increasing the minimum share of renewable energy applicable to energy suppliers and distributors?

1000 character(s) maximum

Rather than a minimum binding share of RES, it would be more efficient to promote a switch from fossil fuels to RES through requiring energy suppliers and distributors to account and report on the GHG savings linked to their EE measures (under article 7).

8.12. Could the option of establishing an EU wide 'white certificate' trading scheme be considered for post 2020?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

A well-functioning market created by obligations could be an effective way to finance efficiency measures (through certificates). It is critical however, to compare the estimated energy savings of the reported measures with the actual

CO2 reduction and to adjust or manage the obligation schemes accordingly. Experience in some Member States shows that the obligation scheme leads to heavy lobbying to accept very different types of measures. The results can be based on imaginary savings, all properly documented but likely no actual decline of CO2 emissions. The only way to prevent this system from failing due to oversupply with almost free certificates is, to link it with the achievement of the CO2 target.

Contact

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