

Renovation of Buildings - Essential to EU Energy Security and 2030 Debate

Leading industries call for 40% binding energy efficiency target

The 2030 Climate & Energy Package and the EU Energy Security Strategy both feature top of the political agendas ahead of the Ministerial Council on 23rd October. The 28 EU Heads of State have been asked to undertake **stress-tests in order to assess their capacity to react in case of disruptions to energy supplies from foreign imports** this winter.

In a letter addressed to the 28 Heads of State, three leading industry associations explain that “A wide-scale deep renovation of the building stock across the EU could **drastically reduce EU energy imports with no higher costs than other supply-oriented solutions**. Indeed, given that the building sector is the **highest user of gas**, reducing our dependence on gas should start with cutting energy waste in buildings”.

Ensuring that a **binding energy efficiency target of at least 40% is secured within the 2030 Energy & Climate Package** is a pre-requisite to triggering political leadership that will permit an ambitious renovation programme for the EU’s leaky buildings to be rolled out. With **buildings identified as the first area where savings will be realised**, setting a 40% binding energy efficiency target represents a golden opportunity to significantly **increase energy security in the EU**.

However, the current Commission proposal for a 2030 Energy & Climate Package debate largely ignores the huge potential in the buildings sector.

Heads of State have the opportunity at the upcoming Ministerial Council to bring tangible solutions to the energy security debate, in addition to contributing to the EU’s **climate goals and creating millions of local jobs** by calling for a **40% binding energy efficiency target for 2030**¹. Indeed, the letter explains that “renovating our building stock will bring **multiple benefits**², **boost local job creation, alleviate energy poverty and improve public finances**³”.

With **high unemployment in the construction sector** across the EU, and the needed technologies for building renovation already available on the market today, a robust and ambitious programme of deep renovation of the existing building stock would put this **untapped skilled workforce back into employment**, and release multiple benefits for our investors, businesses and citizens alike.

Download the Full Letter: www.euroace.org

¹ See the report by Fraunhofer ISI on *The role of an ambitious energy efficiency target in the frame of a 2030 target system for energy efficiency, renewables and greenhouse gas emissions* which can be found at:

<http://www.isi.fraunhofer.de/isi-en/x/projekte/2030-target-system.php>

² See the IEA Report entitled *Capturing the Multiple Benefits of Energy Efficiency* at:

<http://www.iea.org/newsroomandevents/pressreleases/2014/september/name-125300-en.html>

³ See the Copenhagen Economics report entitled *Multiple Benefits of Investing in Energy Efficiency Renovations* at:

<http://www.renovate-europe.eu/Multiple-Benefits-Study>

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