PRESS RELEASE

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Energy Efficiency January missed opportunity: Rendez-vous in June!

“Excluding Energy Efficiency from the 2030 Package is to consciously choose NOT to boost our fragile economic recovery and to lock-in high costs for future generations, renge on our climate commitments and reduce EU competitiveness” said Adrian Joyce, Secretary General of EuroACE, in reaction to the 2030 Climate and Energy Package unveiled today. “By proposing only a GHG emissions target and a Renewables target, the Commission’s White Paper genuinely ignores the crucial role energy efficiency should play in meeting our climate and energy ambitions in a cost-effective manner, based on the energy savings potential of each sector.”

Indeed, evidence-based research from the recent Fraunhofer Report¹ has already demonstrated that without a binding Energy Efficiency Target, the EU will not achieve energy savings beyond the business as usual scenario. An Energy Efficiency Target framed within 3 reinforcing targets therefore responds to common sense and economic rationality.

By excluding an Energy Efficiency Target from the 2030 Package, the Commission also goes against the views expressed by the democratically-elected Members of the EP in their recent Report on 2030.

“Failing to include a binding Energy Efficiency Target in the 2030 Climate and Energy Package flies in the face of basic EU democracy by openly disregarding the Report adopted in the ENVI-ITRE Parliamentary Committees this month which calls for 3 binding targets”, said Anne Delvaux, Co-Rapporteur on the EP’s 2030 Report. “Increased Energy Efficiency should be seen as the cornerstone of the EU’s 2030 climate and energy package, and a binding 40% Energy Efficiency target by 2030 is the only way to unlock the huge energy savings in sectors such as buildings where the energy savings is huge and cost-effective!”

Given the widespread agreement on the huge energy savings potential of the buildings sector, and the repeated awareness that binding legislation is needed to overcome the non-technical barriers holding back this sector, the only means of remeveying to this large omission from the 2030 Package would be for the Commission to bring about bold legislation for energy efficiency and for buildings in its EED Review this year.

The 2020 Energy Efficiency target, left non-binding in the 2020 Energy Climate Package, is already lagging, casting little hope of unlocking the multiple benefits lying dormant in the buildings sector unless an ambitious EED Review with requirements for buildings as a major contributor to achieving a binding Energy Efficiency target is enacted.

Indeed, buildings represent 40% of the energy demand in the EU, and offer a huge cost-effective energy savings potential, which if unlocked, could help the EU to simultaneously meet its economic, energy security and environmental objectives.

Learn more about the Climate and Energy Package: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/2030_en.htm

About EuroACE:
EuroACE represents Europe’s leading companies involved with the manufacture, distribution and installation of energy saving goods and services for buildings. EuroACE members have a total turnover of around €140 billion per year in efficiency-related business and they employ approximately 172,000 people in these activities in Europe. The mission of EuroACE is to work together with the EU institutions to help Europe move towards a more efficient use of energy in buildings, thereby contributing to Europe’s commitments on climate change, energy security and economic growth.
Website: www.euroace.org

About the Renovate Europe Campaign:
Launched in 2011, the Renovate Europe Campaign is an initiative of EuroACE. Its headline ambition is to reduce the energy demand of the EU building stock by 80% by 2050, as compared to 2005 levels.
Website: www.renovate-europe.eu

EuroACE Members (January 2014) are: