

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 9th January 2014

European Parliament hits Home-Run for Energy Efficiency in Buildings

EuroACE welcomes the joint ENVI-ITRE Report adopted this morning on the 2030 Climate and Energy Framework, which makes **3 specific requests to place Energy Efficiency in Buildings at the heart of the post-2020 Climate and Energy Debate**. The Delvaux/Szymanski report will be endorsed in the full Plenary early February. It gives a **timely positive signal** to current discussions in Commission and Council.

1) Call for 3 binding targets (GHG, RES, EE), with Energy Efficiency as cornerstone at 40%

We welcome the clear position on the target debate that calls on the Council and the Commission to adopt "**ambitious binding targets on GHG emission reduction, renewable energy sources and energy efficiency**" (Article 2). This is, as stressed in the Report, absolutely crucial in order to provide investment certainty and boost and strengthen competitiveness and energy security in the EU.

The EP Report further elaborated on its commitment to 3 binding targets by stating that "**increased energy efficiency should be seen as one of the cornerstone of the EU's climate and energy policy**" (Article 6) because of its undeniable contribution to resource efficiency, reducing energy bills, increasing energy security and EU competitiveness, its added health benefits and its significant impact on reducing GHG emissions, and recommended a **40% Energy Efficiency target** in order to deliver on the benefits listed above.

In setting these targets, the EP Report recommends a **bottom-up approach**, which takes into account the potential of each economic sector in order to unlock the substantial **untapped energy saving potential in key non-ETS sectors, namely buildings**. This is the most pragmatic way to make tangible progress on energy and climate goals.

2) Call for sectoral target for buildings

In order to address the non-technological barriers in the buildings sector, the EP Report underlines the importance of a "**sectoral energy efficiency target for buildings** [which] would drive the needed transformation of the building stock, ultimately ensuring that the **huge energy resource that it represents** is tapped". (Article 6e). Such a target is crucial to support the dynamic market transformation of the construction sector towards a low energy, highly efficient building stock.

3) Call to reduce the energy demand of the EU building stock by 80% by 2050

The EP Report placed buildings at the heart of its vision for the post-2020 Climate and Energy Strategy, by emphasizing that "**the current rate and quality of building renovation needs to be substantially scaled up in order to allow the EU to significantly reduce the energy consumption of the existing building stock by 80 %, relative to 2010 levels, by 2050**" (Article 6d).

"The European Parliament has repeatedly come forth with this call to reduce the energy demand of the EU building stock by 80% by 2050: last year in its Report on the Energy Roadmap 2050, and again this year in its joint ITRE-ENVI 2030 Report", explained Adrian Joyce, Secretary General of EuroACE. *"This vote strongly echoes the ambition of our Renovate Europe Campaign and sends a very clear message to the Council and the European Commission about where the real opportunity for climate and energy policy lies – the European Parliament is an important striker in this ballgame to 2030, and has voiced its opinion loud and clear!"*

Download the EP's Draft Report on the ITRE or ENVI Committee pages on the European Parliament's website:
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/itre/home.html>

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For further information:

Adrian Joyce
EuroACE Secretary General
Tel. +32 (0) 2 639 10 10
E-mail: Adrian.Joyce@euroace.org

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:

