

European Energy Forum

EEF Information Bulletin



December 2017

M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA	SU
				1	2	3
4	5	<u>6</u>	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

The EEF Secretariat has moved offices!

The European Energy Forum has now settled into its **new office in Brussels**.

The new address of the association is below. Please note that **documents sent by post to the old address will not be redirected to the new one**.

European Energy Forum
Square Eugène Plasky 92-94, bte 14
1030—Brussels (Belgium)

The **telephone numbers** of the secretariat have changed:

- Pascale Verheust, *Director General*: +32 2 227 04 60
- Maud Michiels, *Administrative & Financial Advisor*: +32 2 227 04 61
- Ángela Sainz Arnau, *Communications & Events Officer*: +32 2 227 04 62
- Pauline Maldaque, *Projects & Events Officer*: +32 2 227 04 63

Our email addresses remain the same. The address of our Head Office in Strasbourg remains unchanged. We hope you will have the occasion to visit us in the new premises in the near future.

EEF Events

Retail markets in the Clean Energy Package: The electricity industry and consumers debate

14 November, Strasbourg

EEF dinner-debate hosted by EURELECTRIC



A key objective of the Commission's "Clean Energy Package" is to empower European energy consumers. But ongoing debates on the electricity market design have been more focused on wholesale than on retail markets. The Union of the Electricity Industry, EURELECTRIC, initiated a dinner-debate to discuss the key provisions on future retail electricity markets and consumers' engagement in the energy system.

EURELECTRIC invited the European Consumers Organisation, BEUC, to debate how to make retail markets in the EU more consumer-friendly. Three focused sessions allowed for an open exchange of views between **António Coutinho**, Chair of EURELECTRIC Retail Customers Committee, and **Monika De Volder**, Energy Team Leader at BEUC. The key points addressed included retail prices and energy poverty, bills and supplier switching, as well as self-consumption and demand-response.

Both associations agreed that European consumers are not getting the full benefits of the wholesale market. Tax and levies on electricity have grown by 70% since 2008. This results in a significant increase of retail electricity prices - while wholesale prices are decreasing - and it leads to energy poverty. For EURELECTRIC, price regulation should be completely phased-out. BEUC sees a possibility for regulated prices when vulnerable consumers need to be protected.

BEUC and EURELECTRIC share the view that European consumers should have access to clearer information in order to make better informed choices. This implies more transparency in policy costs. When it comes to switching supplier, this involves guaranteeing free switching. Any early termination fees should be proportionate to real costs.

In the European Commission's view, the redesign of the electricity market represents an opportunity to address market issues on the consumer side, not only on the supplier side as it was the case in the past. The retail and wholesale markets will become less isolated from each other. According to **Eero Ailio**, Deputy Head of Unit for Retail Markets, Coal and Oil, demand response is one way for consumers to obtain financial benefits from their change of behaviour. But it will not work unless regulated prices for households come to an end.

EEF Events

Distributed Energy: Benefits for Business Customers and the European Energy System

27 November, Brussels

EEF dinner-debate hosted by Centrica



The revision of the Electricity Market Directive and the Energy Efficiency Directive have put on the table a transformation of the whole energy chain. The concept of distributed energy offers a joint approach to energy to optimise the possibilities of an electricity grid which is intended to become increasingly flexible. MEP Peter Kouroubashev chaired a discussion hosted by Centrica that analysed the opportunities this concept can bring for business consumers with substantial energy needs.

Distributed energy is not a very common term in Brussels, it refers to the combination of new technologies to optimise the energy use of business customers. **Jorge Pikunic**, Managing Director of Distributed Energy and Power of Centrica, explained how the company is implementing this approach, which can increase the resilience, performance, efficiency and/or sustainability of companies' production systems.

The solutions that this approach offers for business consumers include three areas, explained Centrica's representative. First, providing insights on the energy use of a particular customer. Second, creating value for it. Third, finding the right combination of technologies to solve a specific problem for a particular customer. This includes distributed generation, storage and highly efficient combined heat and power. Coca-cola bottling in Italy, for instance, has reduced its carbon print by 15% and saved 40% on energy costs with a combined heating and cooling system which is providing 60% of power demand and 80% of cooling.

The Clean Energy Package can boost the implementation of this new approach by allowing larger consumers to contribute to the system with their flexibility and enabling all types of flexibility in the market. Also by applying energy efficiency across the whole energy value chain and allowing access to data to guarantee a more efficient consumption, said Mr Pikunic.

The Commission is aware of these needs. **Manuel Sánchez Jiménez**, Senior Officer for Smart Grids at DG Energy, agreed that distributed energy is an attractive option which offers consumers many opportunities to manage their consumption. Active consumption is already a reality in other sectors, but developments are slower in the energy field. In this sense, data management will be crucial, as a responsible and well monitored exchange of data will bring positive changes for consumers and new business opportunities.

News from EEF members

MEP Zdzisław Krasnodębski joins the EEF



MEP Zdzisław Krasnodębski

Professor Zdzisław Krasnodębski, Polish MEP, has become Active Member of the EEF this month. He is a member of the ECR Group and sits on the ITRE Committee and the Delegation for Relations with the US.

As a substitute member of other EP Committees, he also deals with employment, social affairs, education, culture, security and defence, as well as relations with Israel.

Mr Krasnodębski has a professorship at the University of Bremen, Germany. He started his mandate in the Parliament in July 2014.

Highlight

Calendar of EEF events 2018



The EEF is now preparing the calendar of events for the beginning of next year.

We will provide more information soon, stay tuned!