

Information Bulletin



Editorial

All we hear about are hearings

The hearings of the new Commissioners have started on Monday. Everyone is eagerly waiting for the outcome of these hearings and the subsequent vote scheduled on 22 October during the plenary session.

In 2015, the European Energy Forum will continue its tradition of inviting the Energy Commissioner to express himself in the framework of an EEF dinner-debate. But this time around it will be different since we will have two Commissioners to invite. Invitations will be extended to both the Climate Action and Energy Commissioner and to the Energy Union Commissioner and promises lively debates.

Pascale Verheust
Director General



Upcoming events

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| 07/10/2014 | Dinner-debate in Brussels
<i>Flexibility challenge - will the market deliver?</i>
At the invitation of Wärtsilä |
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| 21/10/2014 | Dinner-debate in Strasbourg
<i>The real challenge of renewables: integration into the distribution grid</i>
At the invitation of EWE |
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| 04/11/2014 | Dinner-debate in Brussels
<i>The role of high-quality biofuels in decarbonizing road transport</i>
At the invitation of Neste Oil |
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| 17/11/2014 | Dinner-debate in Brussels
<i>Thermal Power Generation in 2030 – Added Value for EU Energy Policy</i>
At the invitation of EPPSA |
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| 25/11/2014 | Dinner-debate in Strasbourg
<i>Nuclear energy in the European Union - contribution to EU policy objectives, challenges and perspectives</i>
At the invitation of AREVA |
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| 02/12/2014 | Dinner-debate in Brussels
<i>Waste-to-Energy: A vital link in the Circular Economy</i>
At the invitation of CEWEP |
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EEF events



Energy perspectives - the outlook for global macro-economics and energy markets towards 2040 16/09/2014: Dinner-debate in Strasbourg

This dinner-debate in Strasbourg was chaired by EEF new President Jerzy Buzek and hosted by EEF Associate Member Statoil. It focused on the outlook for global macroeconomics and energy markets towards 2040.



Economic growth, energy security and climate change are amongst the biggest challenges for a Europe emerging from recession. The European Council meeting in October will put forward EU's pledge on the energy and climate strategy towards 2030. This strategy will again be presented in the international climate negotiations in December 2015 in Paris.



Eirik Wærness, Chief Economist Statoil, was the main speaker at the dinner-debate and he presented Statoil's views on the issue. *"...In addition to fighting decline in existing sources of supply and adding new production, we must invest in electricity grids. We must probably make obsolete relatively new investments in coal fired power plants. We must invest in nuclear energy. We must retrofit buildings and infrastructure to ensure higher energy efficiency. We must make substantial investments in renewable energy. We must provide electricity to around 3.8 bn new people until 2050 (...) Furthermore, solving the CCS challenge will be very costly. All this will be a formidable challenge and will be exacerbated by the lack of market based incentives to undertake such a change. Policy measures are therefore required to guide investments to the right uses and sectors. In a situation where growth is moderate and government finances weak, the supply of effective and realistic policy measures is scarce. It is important that we, or rather, you [politicians], choose the right ones".*



The speech was followed by a brief intervention from a representative of the European Commission, Stefaan Vergote, Head of Unit for Economic Analysis and Financial Instruments. In the conclusion of his speech, Mr Vergote focused on Europe's energy strategy on a long-term scenario.



"whether we are in a world where energy security problems dominate, where there are tensions between different regions in the world, or we are in a world of collaborative climate action (...) our long-term strategy (...) in both cases is quite similar. (...) Innovation, energy efficiency, indigenous sources and renewable energy development are all part of the strategy in whatever happens. Secondly, for Europe to speak in a globalized world we need to speak together. (...) If we are working on fragmented action (...) we will loose out as Europe."

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EEF events



Securing European Energy – what role for oil and gas? 23/09/2014: Dinner-debate in Brussels

The dinner-debate was chaired by Paul Rübig, Vice-President of the EEF. It was hosted by ExxonMobil and focused on the role for oil and gas to secure European energy.

Understanding global and European energy trends is very important for effective energy policy. Europe depends on safe, reliable and affordable energy development to support economic growth and competitiveness. In May 2014, the Commission has published a comprehensive proposal for a "European Energy Security Strategy", catapulting energy security to the top of the political agenda.



With this background, Joost van Roost, President of ExxonMobil Benelux presented the views of the company on this issue and took the opportunity to send a message to policy makers: *"We hope policy makers will help sustain our energy security first of all by encouraging market conditions for access to energy (...) We would like to have a guaranteed level playing field in our businesses in the extraction of gas and oil as well as in the refining business and a predictable carbon price (...). We believe energy policies should be transparent, predictable and based on cost-benefit analysis (...) We want the market to work on a price basis and a competitive basis and we also want to have consistent and competitive taxation with other energy vectors."*



After his presentation, Ms Inge Bernaerts, Head of Unit for the Internal Market: Wholesale Markets, Electricity and Gas at the European Commission, was invited to make an intervention in which she highlighted that import dependency *"means an issue with regards to competitiveness of our energy sources, but it also raises an issue of security of supply (...) Europe as a whole, or specific Member States, are particularly dependent on imports on gas from a single source of supply (...). Against this background (...)"* she explained *"we have issued a European Energy Security Strategy Paper which develops various trends in order to deal with the import dependency of Europe and the security of supply issues"*.



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EEF Internal meeting



Jerzy Buzek,
President



Julie Girling,
Treasurer



Pilar del Castillo,
Vice-President



Neena Gill,
Vice-President



Miloslav Ransdorf,
Vice-President



Herbert Reul,
Vice-President



Paul Rübig,
Vice-President



Vladimir Urutchev,
Vice-President

EEF Board Meeting

17/09/2014: Strasbourg

The Board of Directors of the European Energy Forum met in Strasbourg under the chairmanship of Jerzy Buzek to appoint the Vice-Presidents and Treasurer and discuss the line of work of the EEF.

Vice-Presidents :Pilar del Castillo

Neena Gill

Miloslav Ransdorf

Herbert Reul

Paul Rübig

Vladimir Urutchev

Treasurer :

Julie Girling

The EEF Board is looking forward to cooperating with newly elected MEPs who are interested in EEF activities. The Board will seek to diversify its Active Membership and look to include MEPs from different political parties, different Member States in the Board of Directors and also as Vice-Presidents.

The EEF Board decided that the EEF will hold a maximum of two events per month and that the grouping of some hosts might be needed in case of overlapping topics. The Board advises Associate Members to invite, when appropriate, another guest intervener with a different opinion on the topic discussed in order to make debates more interesting.

Among the events foreseen for 2015, the EEF will continue its tradition of inviting the Energy Commissioner to address EEF members. An invitation will be extended in due time to the new Climate Action and Energy Commissioner as well as to the Energy Union Commissioner

EEF team welcomes new colleague



The EEF Secretariat has taken on board a new stagiaire, Pauline Maldague. She has a background in languages and she holds a MA in European studies from Maastricht University.

Pauline travelled several times to China, and upon completing her studies in 2013, she worked in the Consulate General of Belgium in Shanghai.

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EEF Members News



EUGINE joins the EEF



EUGINE is the voice of the European engine power plants industry contributing to the development of an affordable, reliable, modern and sustainable European energy system. It is the centre of knowledge for engine power plant technology and the reform of the electricity market design.



The Brussels' office of EUGINE was set up earlier this year to bring the view of leading European manufacturers of engine power plants and their key components into Europe's energy discussion and to cooperate closely with all stakeholders in the European energy community.

Ralf Wezel (1st picture on the left), General Secretary, and Gaëtan Claeys, Manager of EU Affairs, are the representatives of the Brussels team.



ANA AGUADO Secretary General of EDSO for Smart Grids



Ana Aguado Cornago takes over as Secretary General of the European Distribution System Operators for Smart Grids (EDSO) this autumn.

Ana Aguado Cornago held various high-level positions within the energy sector:
She was CEO of Friends of the Supergrid (FOSG), a group of companies with a mutual interest in promoting the policy agenda for a European Supergrid. Prior to that, Ms. Aguado was Head of the Brussels Office at the European University Institute, Secretary General at ETSO (European Association of Transmission System Operators), Head of Unit for regulation at EURELECTRIC (umbrella association for the European electricity industry), and worked with in the European Commission's DG ENER.

Ms. Aguado holds degrees in Law from the University of Valencia, Spain, MAs in Business law from the University of London and Private International Law from The Hague University.

We look forward to continuing our cooperation with her in her new position.

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EU News

Commissioners-designate hearings associated to ITRE Committee

- [Günther OETTINGER](#) (Germany) for Digital Economy and Society
29 September 2014, 18:30-21:30, JAN 4Q2
- [Carlos MOEDAS](#) (Portugal) for Research, Science and Innovation
30 September 2014, 9:00-12:00, JAN 2Q2
- [Miguel ARIAS CANETE](#) (Spain) for Climate Action and Energy
1 October 2014, 18:00-21:00, JAN 4Q2
- [Elżbieta BIENKOWSKA](#) (Poland) for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
2 October 2014, 13:30-16:30, JAN 4Q2
- [Alenka BRATUSEK](#) (Slovenia), Vice-President-Designate of the Commission for Energy Union
6 October 2014, 14:30-17:30, JAN 4Q2
- [Jyrki KATAINEN](#) (Finland) for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness
7 October 2014, 10:00-13:00, JAN 4Q2

ITRE is also the associated committee in the following Commissioner-designate hearings:

- [Maros SEFCOVIC](#) (Slovakia) for Transport and Space
30 September 2014, 18:00-21:00, JAN 4Q2
- [Tibor NAVRACSICS](#) (Hungary) for Education, Culture, Youth and Citizenship
1 October 2014, 18:00-21:00, JAN 2Q2
- [Andrus ANSIP](#) (Estonia), Vice-President-Designate of the Commission for Digital Single Market
6 October 2014, 18:30-21:30, JAN 2Q2

Each hearing is scheduled to last three hours, during which the commissioner-designate will hold an opening speech and then answer questions posed by committee members.
