

CEP Position (Key Points)

Energy Summit of the European Council on 4 February 2011

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Energy Efficiency

- ▶ Energy efficiency should not be implemented through political decisions but through market forces.
- ▶ Since the EU has already adopted ambitious energy efficiency targets, it is now important that they are achieved at the lowest costs possible.
- ▶ The Commission must cut back its excessive degree of interventions, in particular in the field of product policy (“Eco-Design”).
- ▶ An obligation binding energy distributors and suppliers to ensure energy savings among their customers would trigger unnecessarily expensive energy savings.
- ▶ Companies do not need any mandatory energy management system, nor any mandatory external consulting services.

Renewable Energies

- ▶ The proposal on the development of renewable energies has already been adopted. Therefore, it is now essential that the relating cost burdens are being kept as low as possible. To this end, a consistent “Europeanisation” is required for the development of renewable energies.
- ▶ The development of renewable energies is currently carried out mainly in those Member States which subsidize them most and not in those where the energy yield is best. This is the only reason why 40% of the worldwide photovoltaic capacity is installed in Germany which leads to gigantic waste of resources in the EU.
- ▶ Nonetheless, measures must be taken related to “Europeanisation” in order to avoid an EU-wide cost flood as a result of inefficient promotion concepts.

Energy Infrastructure

- ▶ In order to implement the single market, a development of the cross-border gas and electricity networks is needed.
- ▶ The improved coordination and “strategic planning” of cross-border infrastructure development in the EU provided under the “new EU energy infrastructure policy”, is indispensable for the completion of the single market.
- ▶ The financing of energy infrastructure projects through taxes should be considered only in very limited exceptions. In principle, finances generated through regulated tariffs paid by users must suffice.
- ▶ Gaining widespread acceptance among the local public affected by infrastructure projects is a great challenge. Without a solid basis of acceptance, infrastructure projects cannot be implemented, or only after a substantial delay.