

Public consultation on Energy Roadmap 2050

Meta Informations

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IDENTIFICATION

Your profile

Organisation

Organisation name

Eurofuel, The European Heating Oil Association

Organization type

Industry and private sector, incl. their associations,
excl. SMEs

Main field of activity

Energy supply

Region

Other

Which other region and country?

EU and Europe outside EU

QUESTIONS

1. How can the credibility of work on the transition to a low-carbon energy system in 2050 be ensured? (for example regular updating of projections using energy system models, focus on developments in technologies, level of expertise needed in each sector, ...).

Greater coherence in EU low-carbon energy policymaking is required for heating, making primary energy the main target. Existing legislation should be implemented. A step-by-step renovation process is needed for existing buildings. We should prioritise "low-hanging fruit" targets: replacement of existing old boilers by high-efficiency condensing boilers and/or addition of solar thermal. Projected energy policy ideas in heating should be first subjected to a thorough and realistic energy audit.

2. Looking forward, EU energy policy may be increasingly influenced by developments in global energy supply and demand, international cooperation on climate and initiatives taken **outside the EU**. Which developments should be considered in the Energy Roadmap 2050? On which do you think a stronger EU line is necessary? (*Pick three most important ones*)

further development of an international framework for cooperation on climate
take-up by other countries of EU model for action on climate change
other (please specify)

Which other developments should be considered?
Stricter control of national "environmental" measures contravening the Internal Market.

3. What **societal challenges and opportunities** do you think are likely in Europe over the next decades as a result of changes in the EU and global energy system? On which ones do you think a stronger EU line is needed? (*Pick three most important ones*)

increased importance of access to high-performance energy infrastructures (eg smart meters and grids)
public acceptance of new infrastructures needed for the EU market (eg large storage technologies, pan-European grid)
changed patterns of disruptions in energy supplies, both fossil and electricity

4. The EU's approach to energy policy is founded on regulation and an internal energy market providing competition, innovation, energy efficiency and development of resources including renewables, environmental sustainability, energy security and solidarity, and effective relations with external partners. Which are the main areas which you think might need further **policy development at EU level**, in a 2050 perspective? Please specify what you think is needed, references to supporting analyses welcome. (*Pick three most important ones*)

energy efficiency
financing
other (please specify)

Which other main areas?
Multi-energy/technology-neutral approach to fossil & renewable energy use; affordability to consumer

5. Which **milestones** would you see as most useful to specify at this stage for the transition to a low-carbon energy system in Europe? References to supporting analyses welcome.

Further emphasis on Primary Energy will be needed for policy-making, including the incorporation of renewables into the calculation of Primary Energy, if the availability of renewables is limited (biomass, biofuels). This should be considered in the first review period of the 20-20-20 overall policy progress. Further policy-in-progress information can be made available by Eurofuel. Financing will be crucial to achieve further energy efficiency towards 2050 in the building's sector. Other fundamental milestones to reduce our energy use over a longer time period will concern the move towards a more rationalised approach to minimum energy performance requirements for buildings. The forthcoming definition of cost-optimal levels of minimum performance requirements will be a first step towards an EU-wide calculation methodology, possibly for the next review of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD). This should allow the EU to achieve real savings in a more harmonised way.

6. What are the most likely key drivers for the **future energy mix in the EU**? (*Pick three most important ones*)

long term security of supply
EU climate policy
other (please specify)

Which other key drivers?
Public acceptance of, and Member States' ability to deal with increased amounts of nuclear waste.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND THOUGHTS

7. Do you have additional suggestions or more specific thoughts on the Energy Roadmap 2050?

The key priority until 2020 and beyond, towards 2050, should be the reduction of primary energy use. "Primary energy" includes, in addition to the energy contained in a given fuel or in electricity, the energy necessary for the generation, transport and distribution of the energy source. It is the most inclusive definition and the ideal value to consider, ensuring real impacts on energy consumption reduction. "Primary energy" should include all consumable energy sources (which consumers have to pay for), both fossil (oil and gas and electricity) and renewable (such as wood, sustainably-derived bioliquids and renewable electricity from the grid). To reduce primary energy needs in buildings and heating systems, Eurofuel would recommend an approach combining three aspects: (1) the use of highly efficient heating systems and controls, with the integration of cost-free renewable energy (e.g. solar thermal, ambient heat etc., for which only installation costs are payable); (2) the reduction of energy losses (e.g. insulation of buildings); and (3) an increase in primary energy efficiency through electricity generated onsite by micro-cogeneration (μ CHP). This strategy has already been successful in the past, as illustrated by the evolution of heating oil use in Germany from 1990 to 2010 (graph sent separately). The specific annual consumption per oil boiler has decreased by more than 50 % during the period. Eurofuel members predict a continuous reduction in heating oil consumption due to the ongoing

replacement of inefficient boilers by condensing boilers, from which an increasing number will be combined with solar thermal collectors. Eurofuel is ready to provide data on predicted heating oil consumption until 2020 or even 2030. The optimal solution for the cost-effective reduction of energy demand in an individual building can only be achieved through a technology-neutral regulatory approach. http://www.eurofuel.eu/eng/eurofuel_vision_2020_leaflet_oct_2010_web.pdf

