Upcoming events

4 April 2017  
DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG  
*Updating the Third Package for 2030: the ENTSOs as key delivery partner*

25 April 2017  
DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS  
*Grids of the future and future of the grids*

16 May 2017  
DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG  
*How to avoid blackouts in Europe? The role of capacity mechanisms in the short and medium term*

30 May 2017  
DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS  
*Energy Efficiency—But at what cost?*
EEF Events

Visit to the smart building “Living tomorrow”

2 March, Brussels
Event hosted by ABB

The EEF was invited to visit the smart building “Living Tomorrow” by its Associate Member ABB which is partner in this innovative project. During this visit chaired by MEP Lambert van Nistelrooij EEF members learned about innovative technologies available today to energy customers.

According to the recent legislative proposals, houses will become active players in the energy market. In this framework, the visit aimed at exploring how the energy transition is concretely playing out for Europeans’ homes and workplaces at present.

The tour started with a presentation by Peter Van Den Heede, Head of Sales and Business Development at ABB Benelux on how digitalisation is helping the energy transition in our homes. This was followed by a questions and answers session on how legislation could best be adapted new market models and integrate smart homes.

Following this introduction, the group had the opportunity to take a look at technologies now appearing in our daily lives:

- Integrated energy management systems which can be set up to control heating, cooling, ventilation, lighting and specific electric appliances in homes and commercial buildings;
- Small size batteries which allow home owners to store excess energy produced by their solar panels for periods with higher energy demands;
- Solar fast charging stations which, thanks to solar panels placed on the roof, allows customers to charge an electric car to 80% of its capacity within fifteen minutes;
- Microgrids, making local communities more resilient to extreme weather events, and contributing to keeping the power system stable.

The visit was also an opportunity for participants to get hands-on information on the future of e-Health & Care and interactive home appliances.
**EEF Events**

*Empowering Energy Consumers: The Role of On-site Generation*

14 March, Strasbourg  
*Event hosted by COGEN Europe*

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Cogeneration industry sees the Clean Energy Package as an opportunity for unlocking the environmental and economic benefits of this technology. The role of cogeneration in this new framework was discussed at the first EEF dinner-debate organised in March hosted by COGEN Europe.

Energy efficiency is one of the key pillars of the new package, together with renewable energy and consumer empowerment. In this framework, the Commission has presented the Directive amending the existing Energy Efficiency Directive and the Updated Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. These proposals provide an opportunity for energy efficient on-site generation technologies like embedded cogeneration (or combined heat and power) to be recognised as drivers of energy savings and effectiveness for the wider energy system.

**Chris Marsland** is Head of Cogen product and Technology at ENER-G highlighted different aspects that policymakers could take into account to make sure the proposed pieces of legislation are coherent and can be duly implemented. Cogen’s representative pointed out the need to include the energy efficiency first concept across the different pieces of legislation in the package and highlighted the role of cogeneration technologies to help decarbonise the heating and cooling sector. Mr Marsland also encouraged the promotion of self-generation through Combined Heat and Power, which delivers important energy savings, empowers consumers to produce electricity mainly at peak demand times and reduces grid losses. Finally, he insisted on the importance to better reflect on the different needs of domestic, public, commercial and industrial consumers and effectively provide them with adequate participation tools.

**Paul Hodson**, Head of Unit for Energy Efficiency at DG Energy, agreed that CHP was an effective way to achieve energy savings on the supply side and it offers companies producing steam or electricity to sell these surplus to the grid or to local communities. As Mr Hodson pointed out, CHP is a good example of what the Commission is trying to do with the new package, which is to bring together different silos of the energy policy, as it combines demand and supply, industry and consumers, fossil fuels and RES, heat and electricity.
EEF Events

Does the Energy Union need Capacity Mechanisms to keep the lights on?

22 March, Brussels
Dinner-debate hosted by EUGINE

The second EEF dinner-debate of the month, hosted by the European Engine Power Plants Association (EUGINE), addressed a complex and controversial topic: capacity mechanisms. As part of the revision of the internal market for electricity, EU policy-makers will have to define the legal framework for the use of capacity mechanisms in the future market design.

Ralf Wezel, Secretary General of EUGINE, introduced the session by providing an overview on the main types of capacity mechanisms set up by Member States to ensure sufficient capacity in the power system. As a starting point, he distinguished between two challenges faced by Member States when implementing energy and climate targets: the flexibility challenge and the capacity challenge.

In turn, Marcel Zürn, Member of EUGINE Market Design Working Group, outlined EUGINE’s position on whether capacity mechanisms can be a solution to address both challenges. Through three practical examples in Germany, the UK and Spain, he explained why EUGINE considers capacity mechanisms as putting at risk market-based investments, acting against technology-neutrality and increasing costs for society. According to EUGINE, the use of capacity mechanisms prevents finding the right solution to the flexibility challenge and should therefore be restricted.

To provide a comprehensive understanding of capacity mechanisms in the new market design, two directorates-general of the European Commission were invited to bring their perspective to the debate: Christof Schoser, Deputy Head of Unit for “State aid control in energy” at DG Competition, and Florian Ermacora, Head of the Internal Energy Market Unit at DG Energy.

The participation of a broad range of stakeholders from the Parliament, the Commission, the Council of the European Union and the industry contributed to the successful outcome of this debate. Other events will be held in the coming months to present other perspectives to this very complex issue.
EEF Events

**EEF Internal meetings in March**

**Organised by the EEF**

In addition to the two dinner-debates and one visit that were organised this month in cooperation with EEF members, two internal meetings were also on the calendar.

On 15 March, the **EEF Board** got together in Strasbourg for its yearly statutory meeting to discuss the budget and results and the programme of next events.

On 28 March, the “**ITAC**” breakfast meeting gathered together Associate and Board members in Brussels. This meeting is an occasion for the President to highlight a few issues and for Associate Members to make comments and ask questions. With a view to cooperating openly and fully with members Professor Buzek reiterated the rules for the access to the EP premises to attend EEF events. A discussion on the topics of interest for events took place and this will allow the EEF to build the programme for the autumn.

News from EEF Members

**Roberto Zangrandi: Secretary General of EDSO for Smart Grids**

**EEF Associate Member**

**EDSO for Smart Grids** Board of Directors and General Assembly gathered today in Brussels entrusted **Roberto Zangrandi** the role of Secretary General, following the premature passing away of the late Ana Aguado, Secretary General between 2014 and 2016.

An Italian national, Roberto Zangrandi, has been Special Adviser of EDSO on secondment from Enel Group of Italy since 2015. At Enel he guided their EU Institutional Affairs office in Brussels between 2007 and 2014 after having been Head of Corporate Social Responsibility, Identity and Image, Corporate Communication Plans. In his professional background 12 years with Fiat (Director of External Relations in Frankfurt and Head of International Media Relations) and 15 years an economic and financial journalist are to be found. In addition, he has been over some years strategic communication Senior Partner of a prime consulting company.