Editorial

November: packed agenda

November is going to be a busy month at the EEF. Three dinner-debates will close the calendar of EEF discussions for 2015. An afternoon visit to different power plants providing flexible power generation is also on the programme. Last but not least, the ITAC meeting will take place on 12 November chaired by EEF President Jerzy Buzek. This internal meeting will be an occasion for Associate Members to collaborate on the shaping of the next calendar of EEF discussions for 2016.

Ahead of the so called winter package to be released by the European Commission in January, a number of issues will come on the table and ensuring the timely discussion of these topics is crucial. Associate Members attending the ITAC meeting will be able to provide interesting and innovative topics for debates to engage EU policy makers in the discussion. Proposals for the 2016 programme of the EEF can already be sent to the EEF Secretariat and will be discussed during this breakfast meeting. Join us!

Pascale Verheust
Director General

Upcoming events

2015, 10 November
Dinner-debate in Brussels

Can industry thrive in Europe? Reconciling the EU’s climate and growth agendas
At the invitation of FuelsEurope and CEFIC.

2015, 12 November
Breakfast meeting in Brussels

ITAC: Industrial Technical Advisory Committee
At the invitation of the EEF.

2015, 18 November
Visit to Ghent

Flexible “gas-to-power” solutions
Visit to flexible power plants in Ghent
At the invitation of EUGINe and EUTurbines

2015, 24 November
Dinner-debate in Strasbourg

The EU ETS: an engine to drive innovation and industrial competitiveness in the EU
At the invitation of Shell.

2015, 30 November
Dinner-debate in Brussels

Electricity Market reform: more renewables, more security of supply and at competitive cost
At the invitation of Iberdrola.
Just a few days after the closing of the consultation on the redesign of the European electricity market, EEF members gathered in great numbers to discuss how the EU’s electricity system could be reformed.

**Kari Hietanen**, keynote speaker of the evening and President of the European Engine Power Plants Association (EUGINE), proposed solutions to address the flexibility challenge Europe will continue to face with the introduction of more variable renewable energy sources. “EUGINE believes that the most cost-efficient solutions [to secure investments in adequate capacities and guarantee security of supply] can be achieved through a market-based structure.” The association supports an improved energy-only market (EOM) which would reward flexibility and incentivize balancing responsibility for all market participants.

The intervention of Mr Hietanen was complemented by the input of **Florian Ermacora** who leads the unit in charge of the consultation at DG ENER, European Commission. Most energy stakeholders in the EU share the view that the market needs to be more flexible. The recognition that balancing systems should be harmonized across Europe does not create many divisions either. However, one of the most challenging aspects of reforming the electricity market, Mr Ermacora highlighted, is the difference in the attitudes of EU Member States towards state intervention and capacity remuneration. Some Member States are still concerned about the ability of the market to provide adequate investments signals and therefore chose to remunerate capacities within their national borders.

The dinner-debate chaired by **Dr Paul Rübig**, Vice-President of the EEF, ended with a series of questions and comments from Members of the European Parliament and EEF members on the European Commission’s future proposal; the legislative proposal on the revision of the electricity market is expected in the second half of 2016.
The European Commission is preparing the first Heating and Cooling Strategy, expected at the beginning of 2016. Ahead of this publication, the EEF invited Mr Robin McMillan, Head of Business Development at Siemens Industrial Turbomachinery to explain how cogeneration (CHP) can be useful to provide solutions for efficient heating.

According to the figures provided by Mr McMillan, 46% of energy is used to produce heat. However, 50% of the total energy produced is wasted in form of heat. Cogeneration plants would recover that heat to put it directly through the heating system. Most cogeneration demands are expected to come from the industry, where there is a need for higher efficiency or higher temperatures, but certain industries face restrictions to install cogeneration plants. One of Mr McMillan’s highlights referred to the improvement of energy efficiency by “thinking about energy uses as a whole”, instead of considering the energy system as a silo.

Following this intervention, MEP Inese Vaidere, the chair of this dinner-debate, gave the floor to Marie Donnelly, Director for ‘Renewables, research and innovation and energy efficiency’ at DG ENER. Ms Donnelly recalled that the Heating and Cooling Strategy is part of the Energy Union framework presented earlier this year. Heating and cooling has now become important and there are two fundamental principles the new strategy will be addressing: demand reduction, so that both industry and individual consumers can save money, and waste reduction as a solution for economy saving.

Talking about the challenges of cogeneration, Ms Donnelly mentioned the small presence of CHP in some countries due to a lack of awareness on where the opportunities are. The lack of flexibility of the electricity market design is also negatively affecting CHP solutions and the use of coal instead of gas in cogeneration given the cheaper price of the first is, according to the Commission’s director, not a positive trend. Concerning the local level, there is still resistance to adapt to a changing energy system. We will have to wait until 2016 to see how the issues and challenges discussed are addressed in the new strategy.
EEF members appointments

Iberdrola

Eva Chamizo has been appointed as Director of the Iberdrola Brussels Office in October 2015.

Her expertise in European and Regulatory Law determined her previous appointment as Head of the Legal Service in the Spanish Permanent Representation to the European Union, where she worked for the last 14 years, participating in the EU legislative procedures, in EU negotiations and acting as a legal adviser and Agent to the Court of Justice.

Eva Chamizo is “Abogado del Estado” (State Attorney), the prestigious group of high-level Spanish officials that act as advocates for the State Administration and the Government in all matters of Law. Previous to this condition she had worked as attorney in the private sector.