Editorial

Commissioner Oettinger and ITER

During the dinner-debate of 20 March dedicated to Commissioner Oettinger, he was asked to elaborate on the issue of thermonuclear energy. The Commissioner also clarified his plan in relation to the development of nuclear fusion and more precisely the famous ITER project being built in Cadarache, South of France. He indicated that his responsibility is to make ITER a success. ITER is an international project to demonstrate the technical feasibility of fusion energy. It is conducted under an International Agreement between the EU, China, India, Japan, Korea, Russia and the United States.

The EU share of the ITER construction is 45% (6.6 bn euro) and consequently for the EU as host of the ITER construction is a huge project. Members of the European Parliament visited the ITER site in Cadarache in May 2011. At present time, there is good progress in the work at the site. Two buildings are nearly finished: one of them is a large technical building for on-site manufacturing of large components, and the other one is the headquarters building. The excavation for the main building hosting the facility has also been completed as well as its lower basement and antisismic protection.

Jean-Claude Charrault
Director General

Upcoming events

13/06/2012 Lunchtime discussion Strasbourg
The future of the EU gas market:
political ambitions versus reality check
at the invitation of E-CONTROL
See more: http://www.europeanenergyforum.eu/events/future-eu-gas-market-political-ambitions-versus-reality-check

18/06/2012 Dinner-debate Brussels 19.00 for dinner at 19.30
Checking upon the ETS system:
why the model must be improved
at the invitation of ENEL
See more: http://www.europeanenergyforum.eu/events/checking-upon-ets-system-why-model-must-be-improved

11/09/2012 Dinner-debate Strasbourg
RES and ICT: the need for a systemic approach
at the invitation of EWE

12/09/2012 Lunchtime discussion Strasbourg
Key factors in the development of nuclear power in the EU at the invitation of Westinghouse

22 May dinner-debate in Strasbourg
Past Events

8 May 2012: Dinner-Debate in Brussels
ENTSOE’s Ten-Year Network Development Plan 2012: Conclusions for EU Energy Policy at the invitation of ENTSOE


“The TYNDP is a living thing. It changes depending on the decisions and the evolution of the legislation. Delays put at risk EU goals and reliability & security of supply. Streamlining the permitting process for PCIs will result in substantial improvements when implemented in all Member States.” Daniel Dobbeni

22 May 2012: Dinner-debate in Strasbourg
Unconventional Natural Gas: an opportunity for a new indigenous energy source for Europe at the invitation of ExxonMobil


“Natural gas is an abundant, cost-effective and lower-carbon energy source, and has a key role to play in Europe’s energy mix, now and in the future. Diversifying Europe’s natural gas supplies, including exploration of shale gas, will help ensure security of supply, and offer economic and environmental benefits. Through proven, safe industry practices, shale gas resources in Europe can be explored and extracted without risk to local communities or the environment.” Tristan Aspray

30 May 2012: Dinner-debate in Brussels
Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) & LNG infrastructure: a major contribution to a sustainable, competitive and secure European gas market at the invitation of GIE-GLE

Speaker: Francisco de la Flor, GLE President

Sustainable Energy Week—18-22 June

The 7th edition of the Sustainable Energy Week will kick-off on 18 June. Hundreds of events and activities on energy efficiency and renewable energy will be held throughout Europe during this week. According to the organisers, the EUSEW “is designed to spread best practices, inspire new ideas and build alliances to help meet the EU’s energy and climate goals”.

EUSEW is organised by Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation, in close cooperation with the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Energy. For more information, please check: http://www.eusew.eu/

In the light of the Sustainable Energy Week, some of our Associate Members are hosting events in Brussels and other European cities:

• 18–22 June, Brussels
  EDF: Photo exhibition: Energy powering sustainable growth See event

• 19 June, Brussels
  EURELECTRIC: Electricity for Sustainable Development: progress & challenges in meeting the 2050 goals See event
  EURELECTRIC: Green eMotion: Development of a European Framework for electro-mobility See event

• 20 June, Brussels
  European Smart Metering Industry Group (ESMIG): Smart Metering & Empower Demand: consumer engagement in energy savings See event
  EPPSA – EUROGAS: Blue, Green and Gold: Sustainable and Competitive Energy for Europe See event

• 21 June, Brussels
  Cogen: Beyond Electricity See event

Outside Brussels

• 18-23 June, Glasgow (UK)
  SSE Renewables: The Power of Now See event

• 18 June, Antwerpen (Belgium)
  Siemens: Siemens Energy Efficiency Roadshow See event