Editorial

Geopolitics and energy security

Recent happenings remind us that geopolitics is constantly evolving. As energy issues are strongly linked to geopolitics, the energy security of supply must constantly be updated. This reminds us that energy security of EU is and will remain a topic of great importance on the EU agenda and that discussions are of utmost importance.

The topics of flexible solutions for power production, grid interconnections, renewable compatibility with other sources of energy production, gas and shale gas development or refining capacities are only a few of those discussed during the EEF debates in the last months. More than ever open discussion and listening to each other’s point of view on all energy issues is necessary to create a safe and reliable energy market with less dependence on imported energy, higher variety of suppliers and better exploitation of energy resources.

The first event of the autumn has now been confirmed and will allow newly elected MEPs to discuss the complementarity of gas and renewable (Renewables and gas – the perfect partners in heating – 2 September 2014) a good start for a term full of energy debates. We’ll soon provide our readers with a complete list of events for the autumn and winter 2014-2015.

Pascale Verheust
Director General

Upcoming events

11/03/2014 EEF dinner-debate in Strasbourg
*EU Energy and Climate Policy towards 2030: Shift the course towards competitiveness*
At the invitation of CEFIC

12/03/2014 Internal meeting in Strasbourg
*Board of Directors*
At the invitation of EEF (Board members attend)

17/03/2014 Dinner-Debate in Brussels
*Meeting the energy and climate challenge to 2050 the UK response*
At the invitation of EDF

25/03/2014 Internal meeting in Brussels
*Industrial Technical Advisory Meeting*
At the invitation of EEF (Associate Members and Board Members attend)

16/04/2014 Internal meeting in Strasbourg
*General Assembly*
At the invitation of EEF (Active Members attend)
EEF events

Completing the IEM and paving the way towards 2030 through network codes
04/02/2014: Dinner-debate in Strasbourg

EEF’s debate on 4 February was focused on the implementation of network codes within the electricity market. Nick Winser, President of ENTSO-E and CEO of National Grid UK, explained ENTSO-E’s view on the importance of this codes and provided detailed clarifications to the numerous questions raised by the audience.

According to Mr Winser, *The European power system is evolving very significantly (...) We need to have a much better interconnected system to cope with the challenges ahead. (...) The degree of inter-connexions is too low for competitive intensity in a world where we have a blend of fossil and renewables (...) A greater degree of inter-connexion is required, the network codes (...) are absolutely fundamental in laying out the professional set of standards and technical requirements and non discriminatory requirements on all players in this market.*

The Commission's 2030 objectives - How realistic are they?
11/02/2014: Dinner-debate in Brussels

The debate hosted by CEZ on the energy objectives took place few weeks after the Commission had made public its proposal for 2030. In this respect, Mr Karel Kovanda, Manager CEZ Representative Office in Brussels, pointed out that if the EU wants to decrease greenhouse gas emissions “*only via our own policies, we should focus on this one single target. To reach it, we should use the single most effective instrument we have today, which is the ETS system.*”

Michal Krepelka, who is part of CEZ’s Market Analysis Team, offered his company’s point of view on the targets proposed by the Commission and concluded that “*40% emissions reduction target is one of the most efficient and most consistent tools*. However, he didn’t consider necessary the set up of new renewable energy targets at the moment, as “*It’s up to the Member States if they want to impose them (...) is not something to be driven by EC policies.*”. Finally, Mr Krepelka added that “*revised EU ETS could become the tool which could help us all integrate all these targets and the proposal of the Commission leads this way.*”
EEF events

**Bureau Meeting**

*05/02/2013: Internal Meeting in Strasbourg*

Bureau members got together in Strasbourg to discuss debates and activities to be organized by the EEF before and after the elections. The results 2013 and budget 2014 were also discussed.

The EEF is now building a programme for the autumn 2014 with the numerous proposals from its associate members. The request from Bureau members was to start the events in September with a debate confronting different views. It also asked to keep the number of events to 2 per months. The amount of topics to be dealt with is such that we are now already looking at dates in early 2015. The programme looks very promising for newly elected MEPs.

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**EEF members**

*03/04/2014: COGEN Europe Annual Conference & Dinner in Brussels*

The COGEN Europe Annual Conference & Dinner 2014, the main cogeneration event in Europe, will take place in Brussels on 3-4 April 2014. COGEN Europe’s Annual Conference brings together leading EU policymakers, industry representatives and influential thinkers to discuss the challenges facing the energy sector and its contribution to achieving the EU’s climate and energy goals, how best to integrate cogeneration into the energy network of tomorrow, the latest policy developments, and much more. Read more on this event.

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*13/03/2014: "Welcoming the Commission’s 2030 proposals: high road, or low road?" Eurelectric’s conference in Brussels*

Participants of Eurelectric’s conference on 13 March in Brussels will discuss the Commission’s 2030 proposals. Connie Hedegaard, Commissioner for Climate Action, will open the conference.

On 22 January 2014 the Commission proposed energy and climate objectives to be met by 2030. Through this proposals, this EU institution intends to send a strong signal to the market, encouraging private investment in new pipelines and electricity networks or low-carbon technologies. Read more on this event.