Exchange of views with the Finnish Presidency: enabling a sustainable transition in energy and marine transport
Tuesday 1 October - BRUSSELS

Energy Transition: towards the final energy mix in 2050
Wednesday 16 October - BRUSSELS

Circular Energy: how waste contributes to clean cities and mobility
Tuesday 22 October 2019 - STRASBOURG

EU Green Deal: gas infrastructure as an energy carrier on the road to 2050
Tuesday 12 November - BRUSSELS

Sector integration: gas driving the energy transition
Tuesday 26 November - STRASBOURG
Energy Transition: exchange of views with Director-General for Energy Ditte Juul Jørgensen

3rd of September 2019, Brussels

Hosted by the EEF

The autumn season of events opened with a dinner-debate hosted by the EEF. This event provided EEF Members, MEPs as well as other guests with the possibility to meet and discuss energy matters with recently appointed Director-General for Energy Ditte Juul Jørgensen.

Impressive results have been achieved during the last 5 years of energy policy, and new Director-General is ready to build on them to achieve more.

DG Energy will strive to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, in line with the proposition for a Green Deal put forward by EC President-elect Ursula Von der Leyen.

To achieve such objective, Member States’ commitment is pivotal. Ms Juul Jørgensen called for an increase in their level of ambition: despite the considerable progress made, gaps still remain in the fields of renewables and energy efficiency, which show a slowdown since 2015.

To help EU countries in their path towards the achievement of a just energy transition, the EC has put in place several legislative as well as non-legislative tools during the past term. To make them effective, actual implementation is required.

Energy transition constitutes a cornerstone of this particular historical period. Climate change will continue to represent a challenge both at the European and global level in the years to come. To overcome it, deep and fruitful dialogue between all energy stakeholders, MEPs and EU institutions should be strongly encouraged.

New Director-General expressed her willingness to make all necessary efforts during the next years of energy policy and ensured she will preserve and continue the fruitful cooperation of DG Energy with the EEF.

The EEF is particularly thankful to Mrs Ditte Juul Jørgensen who took time to answer numerous questions asked by the audience.
Joachim Vanzetta, Chair of the Board of ENTSO-E, said in the electricity market a relevant role was played by TSOs adaptation to the changing EU Energy System, characterized by increasing renewable feed and the shut-down of more conventional generation sources. ENTSO-E is ready to contribute to the full decarbonization of the energy market and the creation of a sound IT backbone. To achieve this, focus should be on implementing the existing regulation: network codes, guidelines and the Clean Energy Package.

The well-functioning of the gas market has been shown by the progressive price convergence. Jan Ingwersen, General Manager of ENTSOG, explained that delivering on the EU energy system is not only about TSOs and regulators: all stakeholders, should be included in the final solution. ENTSOG asked for a package to decarbonize the rest of the energy sectors as well as to materialize market coupling, especially between electricity and gas: a carbon-neutral economy should not involve an "either/or" choice, but the development of gas-electricity synergies.

Alberto Pototschnig, Director of ACER, said when discussing about the Energy Market the focus should be on delivering benefits to consumers first. The target model for the electricity and gas sectors in Europe is the most ambitious in the world and is delivering. Further implementation of the existing legislation will enable to do even better, primarily by improving the level of capacity available to the market. Greater electrification of the system is ahead of us, due to a greater penetration of renewables. Since RES are more variable the electricity system needs to develop more flexibility at right costs. Gas infrastructures will be key to provide the needed flexibility including new gases.

Oliver Koch, DG Energy, European Commission, agreed that implementation and cooperation should be the driving forces of the EU decarbonization. Aiming to create a European energy market by obliging Member States to compete, the Third Energy Package was a unique piece of legislation. Such objective has required full legislation’s implementation and stronger cooperation between TSOs. The minimum binding level of capacity equal to 70% for cross-zonal trade to be made available by TSOs is a good step forward. On the gas side, a future reform to create a fair playing field for new gases is possible. The implementation of existing energy market regulation is still key to deliver the green deal.
In need of a robust European energy system: a vision from the EU and Ukraine

25th September 2019, Brussels

This event chaired by Inese Vaidere, MEP, Director of the EEF provided us with a debate on the energy transition from a broader geographical perspective: EU-Ukraine relations and the Energy Community dimension.

Making energy climate resilient involves challenges and changes. Secretary General of E.DSO Roberto Zangrandi explained the annual consumption share of electricity is increasing significantly compared to other carriers, contributing to the growing complexity of the energy system. To ensure flexibility and reliability of the system, innovation, adaptive regulation as well as strong management based on the cooperation and contact between distribution companies across the EU are key. What still needs to be understood is how to confront the ongoing transformation of the demand-side participation, also bringing along new challenges linked to digitalization and its possible further application to the energy system. Digitalization offers potential advantages both the EU and Ukraine should learn how to leverage.

Decarbonization, decentralization and digitalization lie at the basis of Ukraine’s energy transition, said Maxime Timchenko, CEO of DTEK. Electricity generation in Ukraine is mainly based on nuclear, with renewables counting for only 2% and coal still representing a strong share of generated capacity. By 2035, Ukraine wants to increase the renewable generation share up to 25%. This could be reached through the adoption of market reforms towards market liberalization as well as the further synchronization of Ukraine’s energy system with the EU one, which would also enable Ukraine to contribute to the EU security of supply. Ukraine has a great natural potential for the development of RES, but the lack of grid efficiency and the scarcity of investments make it difficult to turn such potential into actual electricity generation.

Stefan Moser, Head of the Security of supply Unit in DG Energy, reaffirmed the importance of both decarbonization and digitalization as main objectives to be implemented in the energy system. Regarding the former, the EU should aim to increase its current ambitious targets while helping Ukraine develop smoothly towards a modernized climate neutral energy system. Digitalization ensures the energy system can manage higher shares of renewables and enables consumers to become active partners in the energy system. Cyber security is also to be considered as an essential aspect of the process. In order to fulfil the climate targets, reforms are necessary not only in Ukraine but also in the EU. The Clean Energy Package set out a fit for purpose governance framework assuring dialogue both among Member States and between them and the EC. Multilateralism, solidarity and regional cooperation within and beyond the EU, also in the framework of the Energy Community, needs to remain at the basis of the energy transition.
Our Members’ Side

**MEP Ondřej Knotek**

becomes Active Member

Ondřej Knotek MEP, is member of the Group of Renew Europe Group. Mr Knotek sits on the REGI Committee of the European Parliament and is member substitute of EN-VI Committee. He is also member of the Delegation to the EU-Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee and member substitute of the Delegation to the EU-Albania Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee.

**A new representative for National Grid**

Matt Hinde has been appointed as new Head of European Affairs at National Grid and he will be the main representative to the EEF. Previous to that, he worked as Director of Energy and Transport at FleishmanHillard Brussels. Earlier in his career, from 2009 to 2013, he served as energy attaché at the UK permanent representation. From 2013 to 2015, Mr Hinde was Head of EU Strategy at the UK government’s Department of Energy and Climate Change, where he worked on key EU energy policy dossiers, including the 2030 Climate and Energy Framework and the Energy Union.