

Information Bulletin

July 2020



High-level message and discussion



New Treasurer for the EEF



Our first online event with Director-General for Energy



ITAC meeting scheduled with our Associate Members

Commissioner Kadri Simson on the 25th anniversary of the EEF



In June, we proudly published the message from Commissioner Simson on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the European Energy Forum, which shows the continued support of the European Commission to our Forum.

You can watch the whole message [here](#).

Prof. Inese Vaidere, MEP, appointed Treasurer of the EEF



On 6th July, the Board met virtually. We are pleased to announce that Prof. Inese Vaidere, MEP from Latvia sitting on ECON and ENVI (substitute) committees, has been nominated Treasurer of the EEF.

Prof. Vaidere has been following our activities since 2004 and we are happy to welcome her for this important post in our governance.

On the EEF Programme

A discussion with Commissioner for Energy Kadri Simson

14 July: 14.30—15.45 (CET)

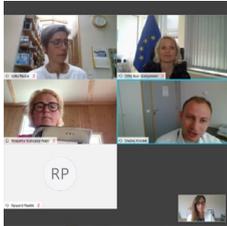
Online energy debate via WEBEX—registration required

ITAC (Industrial and Technical Advisory Committee meeting)

15 July: 10.00—11.00 (CET)

Online meeting via WEBEX—registration required

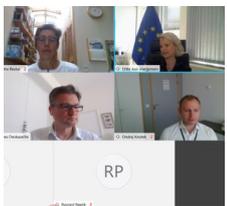
Online energy debate with Director-General Ditte Juul-Jørgensen



New (post) COVID-19 reality – what does it mean for EU Energy Policy?

In her introductory remarks, the **Director-General for Energy** presented the European Commission's main initiatives to strengthen the EU Energy System in the new reality.

The aim of the European Commission is to transform the recovery from this crisis into an occasion to further accelerate the decarbonisation of the economy and of the energy systems, in the broader framework of the EU Green Deal, and in a way that supports EU competitiveness by strengthening economic growth, jobs creation and guaranteeing energy affordability.



The Emergency Next Generation EU and the reinforced Multiannual Financial Framework presented in late May represent a first crucial step expected to effectively help channel investment in those areas where it is needed the most. The EU needs to be equipped with a long-term budget to help the recovery in a manner that is green, digital and ensuring long-term resilience. The Director-General expects the EC strategies and initiatives on Energy system integration and hydrogen, building renovation and renewable energy will be key enablers.

She insisted on the key role of member States through their national Energy and Climate plans, reminding that the actual implementation of the EU strategies relies on them. A lot has been done for RES and more is needed. Cooperation and discussions, with DG GROW among others, is key. The TEN-E regulation will be reviewed as infrastructure is key in the energy system.

Today, the EU has different strategies for different objectives. These all seem to work quite well together. This is a good starting point to enhance the EU competitiveness, reach carbon-neutrality, and ensure security of energy supply and resilience of the system also in the longer term.

EEF Vice-President MEP Miapetra Kumpula-Natri, EEF Active Member MEP Ondrej Knotek, and MEP Jutta Paulus were on the panel and provided their different insights on the topic: channelling of investment, clear guidance on who is the receiver of the funding, the importance of guaranteeing stability and self-sufficiency of the EU, further investment in R&D to enable the rapid scale-up of renewables, bringing RES value chains back to Europe, coal-to-gas transitional projects, the role of nuclear power in the period when RES are getting mature and stable, and hydrogen were all touched upon.

The very topical question of hydrogen was discussed from varied angles: green H₂ or decarbonised H₂, the investment needed, especially in Central-Eastern Europe, the opportunity to use it for long-term storage as well as for the decarbonisation of hard-to-abate sectors, the blending in the network and the loss implied by energy transformation.

The Director-General took the time to answer all the questions from MEPs and the Industry, concluding that she looks forward to further discussion with the EEF.