

Information Bulletin



Editorial

Energy Policy and the Digital Single Market

The Internet and digital technologies are transforming our world.

On 6 May, the European Commission published its **Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe**. In the **Energy Union Package** published in February, the European Commission stated that it intends to promote the further development of smart appliances and smart grids, so that flexible energy use is rewarded. It added that **synergies** between the **Energy Union and the Digital Single Market agenda** will be developed as well as measures to ensure privacy protection and cybersecurity.

The **European Council** of 25 and 26 June will provide additional orientations on the Digital Agenda further to the Commission Communication.

With digital issues high on the agenda, the EEF is pleased to announce that **Commissioner Oettinger, Digital Economy and society**, will be the guest speaker at a dinner-debate on **Energy Policy and the Digital Single Market** on **7 July in Strasbourg**. The dinner will outline and address the opportunities that the digital single market can bring to the energy field by improving access to goods and services, developing digital networks and enlarging business and job opportunities.

Pascale Verheust,
Director General

Upcoming events

- 09/06/2015** Dinner-debate in Strasbourg
Gas infrastructure projects in a post-South Stream environment - is investing still attractive?
At the invitation of **Wintershall**
-
- 25/06/2015** Briefing for MEP assistants in Brussels
Integrating larger shares of RES into the power system: technology perspectives
At the invitation of **EEF**
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- 02/07/2015** Briefing for MEP assistants in Brussels
Integrating larger shares of RES into the power system: market perspectives
At the invitation of **EEF**
-
- 07/07/2015** Dinner-debate in Strasbourg
Energy Policy and the Digital Single Market
Guest Speaker: Commissioner Günther Oettinger
At the invitation of **EEF**
-
- 07/09/2015** Dinner-debate in Strasbourg
Gas in transport, a sustainable alternative?
At the invitation of **Eurogas**
-
- 12/10/2015** Dinner-debate in Brussels
Electricity Market Design: creating the right incentives to ensure security of supply at minimum cost
At the invitation of **Eugine**



EEF events

Interconnectors – challenges to building a more connected EU market

06/05/2015, Dinner-debate in Brussels

Hosted by National Grid



In October 2014, the Council confirmed a minimum interconnection target for Member States of **10%** of installed electricity production capacity by **2020**. In addition, the European Commission has pointed out that all efforts must be guided to achieve **15%** by **2030**. In May, the EEF organised a dinner-debate on the importance of interconnections and the challenges faced during the development process.



The targets set by EU institutions are useful for encouraging progress in this field, but National Grid pointed out that it is also important to pay attention to **market signals** to demonstrate where interconnection investments should be taking place. The idea behind this is to develop a **regulatory framework** that allows for a right balance between consumer benefits and the risk assumed by both the investor and the developing entity.



The development of an interconnection project takes 7 to 10 years and faces different **challenges** during the process. Technical and financial obstacles are often found, but one of the most complex issues has to do with joining together the 2 countries, the regulators and the energy ministries involved in the project.



The current interest in the development of interconnections at EU level is bringing a new level of cooperation. A significant number of **Projects of Common Interest** focused on interconnections has been approved. During the event, EEF welcomed Janez Kopac, the Director of the **European Energy Community**, together with a delegation of Energy Community representatives. It was an occasion for us to learn that the Energy Community has put in place a similar model to develop interconnections in South Eastern European countries as well.

According to estimations by the Commission, focusing on a common approach the EU would save between 3 to 8 billion euros annually. In June, the EU executive will propose **specific interconnection objectives** to be reached until 2030.



News from EEF Members

SNAM



Domenico Maggi

Snam has recently become member to the EEF. The company is leader in Europe in the construction and integrated management of natural gas infrastructure, with around 24 billion euro of regulatory asset base at the end of 2013. In Italy, SNAM transports and dispatches natural gas, re-gasifies liquefied natural gas, distributes and stores natural gas through four operating companies, 100% controlled by the Corporate Snam SpA: Snam Rete Gas, GNL Italia, Italgas and Stogit.

From 2012 the company was engaged in strategic partnerships, mergers and acquisitions which led to the reshaping of its role within the European infrastructure system. Snam has transformed from an operator of assets into a market facilitator, committed to promoting the development of the European gas market through the provision of new integrated services to its customers. **Domenico Maggi** is Head of European Public Affairs and represents Snam S.p.A. at EEF events.

Fuels Europe



John Cooper

Fuels Europe, the European association for petroleum refiners, has appointed **John Cooper** as new Director General last April. He has broad experience of the downstream oil industry and replaces Chris Beddoes who retired at the end of April.