

EEF Information Bulletin



Editorial

Strengthening cooperation between EEF members

On 28 April, the **EEF Industrial and Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC)** held its annual statutory meeting. These meetings offer Associate Members an opportunity to exchange views with the **President, Vice-Presidents and Directors** who are closely involved in the life of the association.

Associate and Active Members have an opportunity to get to know each other better and exchange views on issues of special relevance to European energy policies. This well-attended meeting is characterised by in depth dialogue on a wide range of topics, transparency and openness even when contradictory views are discussed.

The enriching discussions taking place at ITAC meetings show solid support from MEPs and energy entities and are vital in strengthening mutual trust and cooperation between the two categories of EEF members.

Pascale Verheust
Director General

Upcoming events

10 May 2016

Dinner-debate in Strasbourg

Bridging Europe's Energy Divide – How to link Central and Western Europe?

At the invitation of **CEEP**



24 May 2016

Dinner-debate in Brussels

LNG : a game changer for the EU's transport and power sector?

At the invitation of **Wärtsilä**



27 June 2016

Dinner-debate in Brussels

Energy Efficiency as a business case for companies

At the invitation of **E.ON**



5 July 2016

Dinner-debate in Strasbourg

The Western Balkans meeting EU energy and climate goals

At the invitation of **NIS**



ITAC Meeting in Brussels



EEF events

Diversification and cross-border interconnections at the core of the EU Internal Energy Market

12 April, Strasbourg

Dinner-debate hosted by SNAM



The Energy Security Package highlights the importance of completing the EU Internal Energy Market and putting in place the missing infrastructure links. Following a previous event on security of supply in Brussels, the EEF organised a complementary discussion on gas interconnections in Strasbourg.



According to **Andrea Stegher**, who delivered the keynote speech that preceded the discussion, the EU has “*a good solid base of infrastructure already in place*”. One of the key issues now is to develop storage technologies. Stegher works as Head of Business Development in **SNAM**, one of the largest single storage companies in Europe. He explained that storage is something “*we normally talk about when emergencies arise*”, but argued that this technology is “*the real provider of flexibility in the gas market*”.



SNAM’s representative also analysed the role of gas in the new energy mix. “*Gas and infrastructures*”, he said, “*can deliver immediately something for the future*” by reducing emissions, contributing to increasing the role of gas in transport and helping to increase the share of RES in the energy mix. The share of domestic gas production can also be increased by using bio methane, which Mr Stegher described as a “*programmable renewable source of energy*”.



Following his intervention, **Catharina Sikow-Magny** took the floor to complement the presentation of the speaker with the point of view of **DG Energy**. According to Ms Sikow-Magny, gas is expected to “*continue playing its important role in the energy mix also in the future*”. She also highlighted that without the interconnections, the IEM “*would remain on paper*” and explained that “*although some investments are needed in certain areas for security of supply and regasification purposes*” the amounts of money needed to develop interconnections are not so high.



EEF events

A fit-for-purpose ACER and ENTSO governance in the framework of the Energy Union

20 April, Brussels

Dinner-debate hosted by E-CONTROL



In the light of the changing energy landscape, the Communication on the Energy Union stressed the importance of addressing governance and reinforcing the powers of ACER (the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators) and the ENTSOs (European Networks of Transmission System Operators).



In this context, **E-Control Austria** hosted a dinner-debate focused on the governance of ACER, ENTSO-E and ENTSOG. The structure of joint work between these entities was established following the adoption of the Third Energy Package in 2009. During his presentation, **Mr Walter Boltz**, former Executive Director of E-Control, identified some of the areas for improvement in the current governance system: the enforcement of cross-border rules, the level of oversight of ACER and the ENTSOs as well as the internal structure of ACER.



Mr Boltz also highlighted the need to strengthen the supervision of *“new entities or new functions performed by existing entities which are not yet subject to a coordinated regional or EU-level oversight and governance framework”*.



Dr Oliver Koch, Deputy Head of Unit for electricity and gas wholesale markets at the European Commission, presented the views of DG Energy on these issues. Questioning why the Third Energy Package did not produce some of the results expected, Dr Koch underlined the difficulty of reaching technical decisions under the current framework. National divergences are often exacerbated by technical differences between Member States.

Against this background, the European Commission will propose to create mechanisms to avoid nationally-dominated decision-making and reach regional solutions about contentious issues. In addition, the European Commission will propose to reinforce regional TSOs cooperation.



News from EEF Members



Emmanuel Tuchscherer
Head of the European Affairs
Department



Olivier de Wulf
Senior Manager EU Affairs

The EEF welcomes ENGIE as new member

ENGIE is a global energy player and an expert operator in the businesses of electricity, natural gas and energy services. The Group supports changes in society that are based as much on economic growth as on social progress and the preservation of natural resources.

The Group provides individuals, cities and businesses with highly efficient and innovative solutions largely based on its expertise in four key sectors: renewable energy, energy efficiency, liquefied natural gas and digital technology.

Emmanuel Tuchscherer, Head of the European Affairs Department of ENGIE, and **Olivier de Wulf**, Senior Manager of EU Affairs, will be the main contacts of ENGIE to the EEF.

Energy news

Conference by the Joint Research Centre: How to build Smart Energy Regions?

4 & 5 July 2016, Karlsruhe

This joint event organised by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the Technology Region Karlsruhe will discuss how regions and local communities could contribute to reaching ambitious and sustainable greenhouse gas emission reduction targets in the energy sector.

The event addresses representatives of the local and regional government level in different European regions, scientists and experts as well as representatives of the European Commission to discuss good practices and innovative concepts for smart energy solutions at local and regional level.

Contact: JRC-CONFERENCE@ec.europa.eu

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