



### MARCH 2017

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## Upcoming events

- **2 March 2017** VISIT IN BRUSSELS  
***Visit to the smart building "Living Tomorrow"***

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- **14 March 2017** DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG  
***Empowering Energy Consumers: The Role of On-site Generation***

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- **22 March 2017** DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS  
***Does the Energy Union need Capacity Mechanisms to keep the lights on?***

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- **4 April 2017** DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG  
***Updating the Third Package for 2030: the ENTSOs as key delivery partner***

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- **25 April 2017** DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS  
***Grids of the future and future of the grids***

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## EEF Events

### ***Brexit is coming: what are the implications for the EU and UK energy markets?***

**6 February, Brussels**

**Event hosted by National Grid**



***The first dinner-debate of February, focused on the consequences of Brexit for the energy markets. EEF Member National Grid has been leading this debate for over two years, publishing a report before the referendum looking at the potential impacts of Brexit on the UK energy market and its consumers.***

**Nicola Shaw**, UK Executive Director at National Grid, explained that the implications for security of supply and prices across Europe depended on whether UK remained in the internal energy market or not. In any case, *“finding ways to keep this relationship working, keep trading, so that consumers get the benefit associated with this network is pretty important.”*

Ms Shaw then focused on the electricity sector and the consequences that a reduced cooperation could have on energy prices. Interconnections provide the opportunity to move the excess of energy around networks, which keeps prices down for consumers and enables energy to flow where needed. Each GW of interconnection capacity in the UK reduces wholesale prices by 1 or 2%. According to ENTSO-E's calculations, interconnections cost around 1.5-2 euros per MW and consumer prices are reduced by 1.5 to 5 euros per MW. In the case of gas, the UK is a net exporter of this energy source and is working on a number of innovative techniques to comply with EU environmental standards.

The presentation of National Grid's representative was complemented by **Fintan Slye**, Chief Executive of Eirgrid, who analysed the current landscape from the Irish perspective. Mr Slye explained that Ireland, significantly dependent on the UK in terms of access to energy, imports about 85% of its gross energy needs. In this context, any imposition of tariffs or borders on energy that flowed between these countries would have *“wide ranging impacts on the competitiveness of the Irish and Northern Irish economies”*.

The relevance and sensitiveness of the topic gathered together many EEF members and energy stakeholders who all insisted on the importance of a continued cooperation to guarantee a smooth transition and reduce as much as possible the negative impacts of this process.

## EEF Events

### ***Clean Energy Package: the way forward for EU energy consumers?***

**14 February, Strasbourg**

**Dinner-debate hosted by the UFE**



***The “Clean Energy for All Europeans” package is a key step towards energy transition. The legislative proposals contained in the new package will have a structuring impact in the functioning of the internal electricity market. This dinner-debate was the first in a series of upcoming events giving EEF members the opportunity to reflect about the implications of the new package with other energy stakeholders.***

Energy efficiency and renewable energy are key aspects of the new legislative proposals, together with energy consumers, as recalled by the keynote speaker that evening **Damien Siess**, Corporate Strategy Director of the French Union of Electricity (UFE). On energy efficiency, Mr Siess highlighted the need to “*target and prioritise the target*”. According to a study carried out by the UFE in the French sector, 75% of the emissions reduction objective could be reached with a limited cost by concentrating on top 10 energy efficiency measures.

Focusing on the renewable aspect of the package, UFE’s representative mentioned the importance of taking into account the overall costs of energy for the system and therefore leave the door open to technology specific call for tenders, rather than technology neutral, where it is easier to appreciate those costs. On electricity market design, Mr Siess mentioned capacity mechanisms which, he said, can reduce uncertainty in the system and ultimately provide lower prices for consumers. He concluded his analysis by highlighting the need for more room for regional cooperation and for ETS to be the key element of the decarbonisation policy.

**Christian Buchel**, Vice-Chair of EDSO for Smart Grids, provided a the DSOs perspective on the package. The new proposals acknowledge the key importance of energy distributors as neutral market facilitators and active system managers and recognises the need to create a DSO entity at EU level.

From the Commission side, **Anna Colucci**, Head of Unit for Retail Markets at DG ENER, emphasized that the package has placed consumers at its core by providing them with information, protection and empowerment tools.

## EEF Events

### *Circular Economy meets Energy Union*

*28 February, Brussels*

*Dinner-debate hosted by CEWEP*



***The 3<sup>rd</sup> dinner-debate in February focused on Waste-to-Energy plants, one month after the publication by the European Commission of its new communication on the role of waste-to-energy in the circular economy.***

**Ferdinand Kleppmann**, President of CEWEP, opened the discussion by recalling the key principles governing advanced waste management systems: first reducing, reusing and recycling waste, then recovering energy from it and, finally, landfilling. He insisted that waste-to-energy plants not only contribute to the circular economy, but also to the goals set by the EU.

Waste-to-Energy can be regarded as the bridge between the Circular Economy and the Energy Union, as explained by **Jorge Díaz del Castillo**, from DG Environment, who was in charge of the preparation of the waste-to-energy communication, only if there is an observance of the waste hierarchy. Also, public support to waste-to-energy should be consistent with the waste hierarchy that classifies waste-to-energy processes depending on their environmental impacts. He insisted that waste-to-energy covers more than waste incineration.

DG Energy, represented by **Eva Hoos**, sees waste-to-energy as a valuable contributor to EU Energy Policy objectives. She insisted that waste-to-energy plants use high-efficiency cogeneration and be connected to district heating and cooling networks.

**Marta Gurin**, Senior Scientific and Policy Officer at CEWEP, brought us on a tour across the EU showcasing successful partnership projects where waste-to-energy plants are used for district heating, for efficient heat networks and as energy supply for industry.

The Q&A that followed touched upon questions such as acceptance of incinerators, cost, leading position of Europe and regions with higher or lower recycling levels.



## Energy news

### Daily electricity mix in Europe

Our attention was drawn to a handy tool presenting, on a daily basis, the percentage of wind in Europe's electricity mix for the previous day.

More interestingly, the website puts this production in perspective as it also presents charts with the hourly electricity mix in Europe the previous day, with details by country.

This well done initiative by Wind Europe is worth having a look at :

<https://windeurope.org/about-wind/daily-wind/>



### Webinar on Options for the regional cooperation of transmission system operators



ENTSO-E , EEF member, has commanded a study on the options for the regional cooperation of transmission system operators beyond what is foreseen by the EU network codes. The study is meant to contribute to the reflection in Europe around the Clean Energy for All Europeans package. The conclusions of this work will be presented on 31 March from 11am to 1pm during a webinar. Please find more information on [ENTSO-E's website](#).

### Power to the People – Electrification of the European Economy



EEF Associate Member EURELECTRIC is organising a high-level conference on 19 April in Brussels which will kick-start the debate on the policy framework needed to drive electrification. During the Conference, EURELECTRIC will launch a report which highlights the value of electricity in a decarbonised European Union. High level speakers from the European Commission, national representations and industry stakeholders will provide their views on the benefits, challenges and prospects of the role of electricity in Europe's strategy towards sustainability. More information is available at the [conference page](#).