

PRESS RELEASE

ENVI Vote on F-Gas Regulation review leaves heat pumps in grey zone

Brussels, 20 June 2013 – Yesterday, the European Parliament’s ENVI committee voted on the *Compromise and Consolidated Amendments of the F-Gas Regulation review*. The European Heat Pump Association (EHPA) welcomes the progress made and supports a sensible phase-down mechanism. Yet, the industry would have wished for a clearer positioning of the Parliament in support of heat pump technology.

EHPA is pleased to see that the European Parliament did not add heat pumps to the list of bans expressed in Annex III. Heat pumps use renewable energy, are among the most efficient heating systems and the only technology able to reach the requirements of Energy Label’s A+++-class. In addition, they help to balance supply and demand in the smart electric grid. Available alternatives are much more costly, a fact, that has been recognised by the Oekorecherche study¹. As such, an inclusion in the bans would have been detrimental, both to heat pumps and to the European climate and energy goals in general.

However, EHPA is concerned about the introduction of a heat pump definition that is not in line with other legislation, namely EPBD, and on top of it fails to recognise the development status of the technology. EHPA calls upon the Council and Parliament to augment the current text in the next round of negotiations by a set of precise definitions on the scope of the regulation in general and on heat pumps in particular.

The environmental, technical and economical advantages heat pumps bring should not be put at risk by unclear legislation.

Secretary General of EHPA, Thomas Nowak: *“A clear scope needs precise definitions. It should be relatively simple to integrate this clarity into the regulation. This step would be both meaningful and necessary in order to ensure to that this technology can contribute as effectively to the EU’s energy and climate targets as foreseen by other legislation, such as the RES, Ecodesign and Energy Efficiency Directives.”*

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Note to the editor

The Brussels based European Heat Pump Association EEIG (EHPA) represents the majority of the European heat pump industry. It has more than **102 members from all parts of the industry’s value chain**: heat pump and component manufacturers, research institutes, universities, testing labs and energy agencies. Its key goal is to promote awareness and proper deployment of heat pump technology in the European market place for residential, commercial and industrial application. EHPA coordinates the European Quality label for heat pumps and the EUCERT education and training scheme for heat pump installers. EHPA compiles the annual heat pump sales statistics and market outlook. For more information, please visit: www.ehpa.org.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/f-gas/docs/2011_study_en.pdf