

PRESS RELEASE



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Little ambition is not enough: EU Member States must give full support to energy efficient heating

With Wednesday's proposal on a 30% energy efficiency target the European Commission has taken yet another small step into the right direction. However more ambition is necessary to transform the European Energy system.

EHPA encourages all related parties, namely the EU Member States to support the Commission proposal and to push the proposed achievement level even higher. Europe needs swift and decisive action showing markets that policy makers are seriously working on the energy transition. **Energy efficiency must not be a theoretical concept but the guiding line for R&D action as well as investment decisions and support action on all levels.**

Strong commitment by the European Commission and the heads of States to make energy efficiency a corner stone of Europe's Climate and Energy policy will be shown by an ambitious target - larger than the 30% business-as-usual - and a mandatory one. Energy efficiency should then be augmented by requirements on the use of renewables and the reduction of Greenhouse gas emissions.

The European Heat Pump Industry is convinced that **three mutually reinforcing targets** are needed to create planning security and to bring Europe forward towards achieving its climate and energy targets and to eventually realise a sustainable energy supply. In fact, having three targets will most likely be paramount to achieve any of them in a cost efficient manner, as they mutually re-enforce each other.

The Commission's own assessment has shown that this is possible; EHPA ensures decision makers, that the assessment is right and achievable from a technology perspective.

Achieving more energy efficiency, more renewables and less CO2 emission will be easier than thought, if another obvious step is taken: It is not enough to recognize, that the heating sector accounts for 45% of Europe's energy demand. This demand must be curtailed by **putting the heating sector into focus**. The modernization of Europe's heating stock by replacing the existing base of inefficient fossil fuel boilers with highly efficient systems such as heat pumps will reduce our import dependency, will create local jobs and will in the long term ensure affordability of energy supply. The use of energy otherwise wasted in buildings and commercial applications contributes to the same goal. We thus call on Member States to **put heating and cooling to the centre of the 2030 climate and energy package**.

Setting ambitious target values and making their achievement mandatory will speed up the energy transition. Their swift and decisive implementation will serve as a market development program for Europe - a truly sustainable energy supply will also be good for our economies.

All publications can be made available upon request to info@ehpa.org.

Contact details

Mrs. Eirini Litina, Communications officer, +32 (2) 400 10 17, eirini.litina@ehpa.org

Note to the editor

The Brussels based European Heat Pump Association EEIG (EHPA) represents the majority of the European heat pump industry. It has currently 109 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. It compiles the annual sales statistics and market outlook. For more information, please visit: www.ehpa.org.

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