

## PRESS RELEASE

### **IFIEC is not convinced by the COM proposal on the Energy Efficiency Directive**

Members of IFIEC Europe long ago understood the importance of energy efficiency for the success and competitiveness of their businesses and have improved their efficiency drastically in the last decades. However, IFIEC believes that the Commission's Energy Efficiency Directive proposal should be revised by implementing tailor-made sectorial measures, taking a bottom-up approach, including a monitoring scheme and setting definitions of central terms.

Setting definitions on the central terms of the proposal such as energy efficiency and energy savings will streamline and focus the proposal in a sense that energy efficiency is supported. As an example translating energy efficiency into absolute energy savings would jeopardise industrial growth, which is not acceptable to IFIEC.

IFIEC suggests adopting tailor made sectorial measures in order to make the EU energy efficiency policy more realistic. The proposal is based indiscriminately on the same premise for all sectors with a fixed annual savings target, irrespective of any specific requirements and conditions in the sectors concerned. The Impact Assessment done for the draft directive clearly reveals that the sectors have highly disparate base conditions. Unless these base conditions are reflected accurately, it will not be possible to establish proper success and cost criteria.

A bottom-up analysis, in which potentials and existing measures as well as possible risks from further actions are evaluated would be much more appropriate. Therefore IFIEC opposes the proposed straight-down approach of setting a target and not taking the existing potentials and meaningful areas of action into account.

IFIEC suggests adopting a powerful monitoring system to safeguard and secure both the success of the intended efficiency improvements and the energy efficiency savings. Including a monitoring scheme to gather data on an on-going basis is vital in each and every efficiency scheme.

Furthermore IFIEC Europe proposes:

- including definitions on the central terms as energy efficiency, energy efficiency improvements and energy savings and to streamline the proposal in the sense that energy efficiency is supported;
- avoiding overlapping regulation between the proposed Directive, the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and the Energy Taxation Directive (ETD);
- that industrial companies should not be obliged to publish sensitive data which would lead to disadvantages vis-à-vis their international competitors;
- that CHP should not lead to extra costs, but stays a benefit and real option for energy supply in a variety of manufacturing industries without becoming a financial burden.

IFIEC is ready to liaise further with the Commission to ensure an effective result, as industrial growth must be maintained.

*For further information please contact:*

*Fernand Felzinger, President IFIEC Europe on M: +33 6 19 49 01 89 or [email: felzinger@ifieceurope.org](mailto:felzinger@ifieceurope.org)*

2 November 2011

***IFIEC Europe represents energy intensive industrial consumers where energy is a major component of operating costs and directly affects competitiveness.***