

Press Release: A significant upgrade of Commission's EU ETS proposal is needed to ensure energy intensive industry's future in Europe

Brussels, 16 July 2015

IFIEC Europe acknowledges the efforts taken by the European Commission's proposal to revise the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) for the period after 2020 as part of the Climate and Energy Summer Package. However, the framework given by the Council conclusions of October 2014 is not sufficiently reflected. The proposal falls short of what is required for even the best EU performers to stay competitive.

IFIEC Europe, as member of the Alliance of Energy Intensive Industries, already pointed out yesterday, that energy intensive industries require strong carbon leakage provisions. Annette Loske, President and Chair of IFIEC Europe's Working Party Climate and Efficiency, emphasises that "under the proposed rules even Europe's most carbon-efficient installations in exposed sectors would increasingly face significant direct and indirect carbon costs as well as uncertainty."

Therefore, IFIEC Europe raises its concern on energy intensive industries' capacity to remain competitive internationally and attract investment in a system as proposed by the Commission. President Annette Loske calls on the EU institutions "to reform EU ETS in a way that aligns climate action and growth with participation of energy intensive industries." This is possible with an upgrade of the Commission's proposal using input for a more dynamic system given by IFIEC Europe during the stakeholder consultation.

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IFIEC Europe, International Federation of Industrial Energy Consumers, represents European energy intensive industrial consumers where energy is a major component of operating costs and directly affects competitiveness.

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