



## **Energy Efficiency: a missed opportunity**

### **Commission's proposed Directive falls short of Europe's energy efficiency ambitions**

**Brussels, 22 June 2011**

The European Commission's proposal for an Energy Efficiency Directive presented today represents a serious setback to the EU's stated commitments to achieve energy savings.

The Coalition for Energy Savings calls on the European Parliament and Member States not to give up on the 20% energy savings commitment by 2020. The draft Directive must be substantially strengthened if Europe is to realise the huge potential of energy efficiency for the climate, the economy, and society. The lack of a clear process for the planned review in 2014 is also worrying to the Coalition, since it may mean that the decision on the introduction of binding targets could be deferred until the next European Commission.

*"The measures proposed provide Member States with too much scope to limit their obligations. They are also insufficient to make up the lost ground in reaching the EU's energy savings target by 2020,"* states Monica Frassoni, President of the European Alliance to Save Energy.

Last year the Commission committed itself to presenting binding measures rather than binding targets to achieve energy savings. However, the Coalition stresses the need for more ambitious measures in the Directive, particularly in relation to the renovation of public buildings, and energy savings obligations.

Marta Toporek, climate and energy lawyer at ClientEarth, says: *"The Commission has set a target for public buildings renovations of 3 per cent each year. This could be a good start – but it won't provide the energy savings anticipated unless the Directive requires deep renovations, properly verified through energy performance certificates. It's also crucial that the renovation target applies to all public buildings, regardless of size. Furthermore, legislation which triggers the allocation of public funding and the release of private investment is urgently required."*

The Coalition for Energy Savings emphasises that energy saving obligations should remain a key binding measure for all Member States. It also underlines that the energy savings obligations within the proposal require proper monitoring and verification to ensure that they deliver absolute energy savings.

The 22 industry and NGO members of the Coalition for Energy Savings will continue to work closely with decision-makers over the coming months in order to strengthen the draft Directive.

*Ends.*

## **Note to editors**

The European Commission currently estimates that only 9% energy savings will be achieved by 2020 without further measures.

## **For more information, please contact:**

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*The Coalition for Energy Savings brings together business, professional and civil society associations. The Coalition's purpose is to make the case for a European energy policy that places a much greater, more meaningful emphasis on energy efficiency and savings. In particular it is arguing for the current 20% energy efficiency target to be binding.*

### *Members of the Coalition:*

*The Architects' Council of Europe (ACE)  
Buildings Performance Institute Europe (BPIE)  
ClientEarth  
Climate Action Network – Europe (CAN-Europe)  
The Climate Group  
COGEN Europe  
The European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (EuroACE)  
The European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE)  
European Association of Polyurethane Insulation Manufacturers (PU Europe)  
The European Climate Foundation  
The European Committee of Domestic Equipment Manufacturers (CECED)  
European Copper Institute*

*The European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (eceee)  
European Environmental Bureau (EEB)  
European Insulation Manufacturers Association (Eurima)  
European Lamp Companies Federation (ELCF)  
The European Liaison Committee For Social Housing (CECODHAS)  
Friends of the Earth Europe  
Glass for Europe  
The Prince of Wales's EU Corporate Leaders Group on Climate Change (EU CLG)  
The Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP)  
The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)  
WWF*