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CEE bankwatch
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Making Progress on Energy Efficiency



Dear President Barroso,

In relation to the current debate on the future energy policy for the European Union and in particular the role that energy conservation should play, we are writing to you today **to urge you to publish the long awaited Energy Efficiency Action Plan (EEAP)** in the next weeks. Furthermore, we urge you to include in the EEAP a proposal for developing and agreeing legally-binding targets for energy efficiency and conservation in all sectors of society.



In our view, the EEAP must help to strengthen existing legislation to drive dynamic energy savings such as the Energy Using Products Directive, Energy Enduse Efficiency and Energy Services Directive and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. It should also lead towards new legislation such as maximum energy consumption standards for all new vehicles. A strong focus on mandatory targets across the EU is unavoidable if the EU wants to achieve the ambition of becoming the most resource and energy efficient economy in the world. The EU's economic credibility is at stake if it refuses to reap the 60 - 150 billion euro per year the Commission claims can be saved by meeting a target of reducing primary energy consumption by 20% in the next 15 years.



Climate change and security of energy supply are amongst the greatest threats to the growth of the economy and the well-being of European citizens. The most cost-effective tool to fight climate change, guarantee the security of energy supply and promote smart economic growth for the benefit of the environment and society at large is to ensure energy conservation. **Energy efficiency is the best option for the EU to meet its climate targets in a fast, cost-effective way and also reach the Commission's objective to make the Europe the most energy efficient region in the world.**



Friends of the Earth Europe

A sound and well-timed Energy Efficiency Action Plan represents the first substantial step towards this goal and we strongly recommend you to grab this opportunity to resolutely affirm the primary role of energy efficiency as the **precondition** of a future energy policy for Europe, not an option among many others.



The Green 10, group of environmental NGOs, shares your concerns regarding the quality of the Action Plan and fully supports your will to improve its content, but we firmly believe the Commission has the adequate resources to significantly improve the existing draft in the following 2/3 weeks. The possible consequences of a delay and an inclusion of the Energy Efficiency Action Plan in the forthcoming Energy Strategy Review in January 2007 constitute a real concern for us, as the risk of seeing energy efficiency overshadowed by more contentious issues is very high. The Energy Efficiency Action Plan should be used to underpin discussion on the forthcoming Energy Strategy Review and not be lost among the many other measures included in the package.

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Therefore, the G10 urges the European Commission to reaffirm its determination in the fight against climate change by publishing an ambitious Energy Efficiency Action Plan in the forthcoming weeks, committing to reduce at least 20% energy consumption by 2020. A failure to do so would seriously undermine the future development of a sound and sustainable European energy policy.

T&E
Europe's voice for sustainable transport

Yours sincerely,



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On behalf of Green 10 members