

Post-2020 policy debate must result in a coherent 2030 energy and climate package by 2014

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EURELECTRIC welcomes the publication of the Commission's *Green Paper on the 2030 Framework for Energy and Climate Policies*, which formally opens the debate on the EU's policy instruments beyond 2020.

"Today's Green Paper should be the starting point of a robust debate on a strong energy and climate policy package for 2030. This package must be agreed as soon as possible – ideally before summer 2014. For our sector, which mainly invests big and long-term, 2020 is tomorrow. Clarity on the 2030 framework is urgently needed to ensure that electricity companies can invest to put the sector on track for Europe's transition towards a low-carbon energy system," commented EURELECTRIC Secretary General Hans ten Berge.

Above all, a new package must be coherent, giving a smooth transition from today through to 2030 and beyond. Crucially, this means policies which are coherent with one another. EURELECTRIC therefore calls for a package of decisions which links together agreement on carbon emissions reduction, the future of renewables beyond 2020, and the internal energy market. This process should be substantially completed during the current EU mandate, before summer 2014.

EURELECTRIC believes that cost-efficiency is key to a successful energy and climate policy package that is supported by industry and consumers alike. To achieve this, the 2030 package should be underpinned by the following basic principles: an ambitious 2030 carbon reduction target in line with the European Council's 2050 decarbonisation goal; a continued commitment to the completion of the Internal Energy Market; a stronger EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) which can drive investment in low-carbon generation; and a level playing field for full competition between all available low-carbon technologies, supported by a strong EU innovation strategy.

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