

EU Leaders Must Resist Costly Energy Policy Renationalisation

21/05/2013

EURELECTRIC has urged EU leaders to firmly resist the move towards a renationalisation of energy policy, ensure policy coherence, and intervene to rescue the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) - all as a means of increasing cost-efficiency and boosting investment.

The call was made in a letter sent to EU Heads of State and Government, who are meeting at a special European Council on energy issues tomorrow.

'EU climate and energy policies today are a source of confusion, not clarity. Today's policy framework is half European, yet still half national; half market-based, but also half command-and-control; and seems to be only half committed to the ETS,' the letter, signed by EURELECTRIC President and CEO of Enel Fulvio Conti, reads.

The letter calls on EU leaders to put an end to investor uncertainty and *'urgently agree on a coherent top-down package of proposals which establish an ambitious, firm, long-term, economy-wide greenhouse gas reduction target for 2030 up to 2050, in line with the European Council goal'.*

'There is an absolute need to move away from this regulatory disorder- but also to avoid windfall taxes and retroactive changes- to instead come up with a reliable and long-term energy policy that fosters investments', the letter continues.

In this context, the letter points to the vital role of the ETS, while warning of *'a serious risk that the current crisis will so weaken the ETS as to lock the European economy into a non-ETS approach to decarbonisation that will not only distort, but also fragment the internal energy market, undoing 20 years of work on harmonisation and resulting in higher costs for all energy customers-residential, industrial, big and small businesses'.*

EURELECTRIC's call for action comes against the backdrop of two major EURELECTRIC reports released last week: **Power Choices Reloaded** and **Utilities: Powerhouses of Innovation**. The former calls for a rapid and clear policy signal to achieve cost-efficient, ETS-driven decarbonisation. The latter finds that power sector innovation can bring additional value to this process, growing to €70bn in 2030.

The full letter is available [here](#).

This article is also available on our [Website](#)

Should you wish to unsubscribe click [HERE](#) to log in to your profile. Then click on 'Check your services'.