

2030 policy framework: EURELECTRIC launches call for a 'cleaner, simpler and smarter' energy system

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Policymakers looking to set Europe's post-2020 climate and energy policies must pave the way for a 'cleaner, simpler and smarter' energy system - one that can ensure cost-efficient energy for Europe's business and consumers.

This is the main message of EURELECTRIC's **response** to the European Commission's consultation on its 2030 climate and energy policy framework, published today.

*'Inefficient policies today are unnecessarily raising costs for businesses and consumers. The EU cannot afford to continue down this road. Instead, it must focus on delivering an energy system that is cleaner, simpler and smarter. Cleaner because it incentivises decarbonisation, in line with the EU's and the power sector's ambitions for 2050. Simpler because it replaces today's incoherent approach with integrated, mutually reinforcing policies. And smarter because it encourages investment and innovation at the lowest possible cost,'*said EURELECTRIC Secretary General Hans ten Berge.

According to the European electricity industry, this 'cleaner, simpler, smarter' 2030 framework should be based on the following building blocks:

- An economy-wide 2030 emissions reduction target of at least 40% compared to 1990;
- A strengthened Emissions Trading System (ETS) as the key instrument for driving investment in low-carbon technologies;
- A progressive phase-out of all energy sector subsidies moving towards 2020 and beyond;
- A re-commitment to the completion of the internal energy market;
- Greater system responsibility and market integration for generators of renewable energy;
- A more active EU policy for the electrification of mobility and heating/cooling and for smart distribution networks.

*'Driving investment in the EU's low-carbon energy system beyond 2020 will depend on creating an enabling policy framework today. A smooth transition to that new framework, along the lines set out in our paper, will help Europe to maintain its competitiveness while reducing emissions and improving security of supply,'*Mr ten Berge concluded.

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