

MEPs want integrated energy market with clear targets & secure supplies

[10-11-2015 - 13:32]

The industry committee set out its demands for a European energy union in a resolution passed on Tuesday. Among them: compliance with the Commission's recommendation concerning hydraulic fracturing, a voluntary system to collectively purchase energy, and support for the development of Europe's own energy resources.

National energy mixes and a fully integrated internal market

"National diversity" in energy-mix choices "must not represent a barrier to the single market", says the committee, which acknowledges "public concerns about hydraulic fracturing and its consequences" and asks "those member states that intend to pursue hydraulic fracturing to respect the Commission's recommendation setting out minimum principles governing the exploration and production of hydrocarbons (such as shale gas) using high volume hydraulic fracturing".

The committee, which wants all legislation on the energy union to be decided by Parliament and the Council on an equal footing, advocates the creation of a legislative framework to "empower consumers and make them active participants in the market". It says this "could contribute to a more competitive and well-functioning internal energy market, and help address serious social problems, such as energy poverty and vulnerable consumers."

The recommended gas-system stress tests would provide an "overview of the resilience of the entire energy market", says the committee, which believes that a "fully-functioning, interconnected internal energy market is the backbone of the future energy union."

Energy supply and energy security: boost cooperation, tap full potential of Europe's energy resources

The committee is concerned about the impact of the proposed doubling of the Nordstream pipeline "on energy security, diversification of supply and principle of solidarity between Member States" and wants the Commission to consider a voluntary mechanism to pool purchases of energy and to set up a "comprehensive framework for the external dimension of the Energy Union"

It says that Europe should make the best use of its own energy resources and that unnecessary red tape must be avoided.

Minimise energy dependency

Industry MEPs "underline that energy efficiency and renewable energy will play a key role in delivering the long-term EU goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in a cost-effective way", and welcome the Commission's commitment to making the EU the world's "number one in renewables".

Further information

- Committee on Industry, Research and Energy:
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/itre/home.html>
- Marek Józef Gróbarczyk (ECR, PL): <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/96790.html>

Press release

- "Towards a European Energy Union" - draft report and amendments:
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/itre/draft-reports.html?ufolderComCode=ITRE&ufolderLegId=8&ufolderId=03374&linkedDocument=true&urefProcYear=&urefProcNum=&urefProcCode=>
- Energy Union - Communication from European Commission: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2015:80:FIN>
- Video extracts from the vote and statement by rapporteur Marek Józef Gróbarczyk (ECR,PL):
<http://audiovisual.europarl.europa.eu/Page.aspx?id=2464>
- Catch up with the vote here: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/ep-live/en/committees/search?committee=ITRE>
- "Wheels set in motion for united energy in Europe" - EuroparlTV:
<http://europartv.europa.eu/en/player.aspx?pid=9ea45dd3-d78c-4d8d-9c0c-a54800e448df>

Contact

Sara AHNBORG

BXL: (+32) 2 28 34018

STR: (+33) 3 881 73856

PORT: (+32) 498 98 13 36

EMAIL: indu-press@europarl.europa.eu

TWITTER: EP_Industry

Raluca Viviana HULUBAN

BXL: (+32) 2 28 41498

STR: (+33) 3 881 74715

PORT: (+32) 498 98 33 34

EMAIL: indu-press@europarl.europa.eu

TWITTER: EP_Industry