

**ITRE**

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Newsletter - issue 10

11-12 July 2016

EU strategy for liquefied natural gas and gas storageConsideration of [amendments](#)Rapporteur: [András Gyürk](#)

In the meeting of 11 July, ITRE will consider the amendments tabled to Mr Gyürk's (EPP) draft report on the EU strategy for liquefied natural gas and gas storage. Members have tabled a total of 265 amendments. Many of the amendments put more emphasis on the importance of lessening the EU's gas dependency in the long-term, reflecting its commitment to reduce GHG emissions and avoiding stranded assets in fossil fuel infrastructure. Other amendments stress the need to prioritise gas production in the Mediterranean, the Black Sea and the Caspian region and to interconnect landlocked countries in Central and South East Europe.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in ITRE: 26 September 2016*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Measures to safeguard the security of gas supplyConsideration of [amendments](#)Rapporteur: [Jerzy Buzek](#)

ITRE will discuss amendments to the proposed Regulation on the Security of gas supply. Together with the amendments contained in the draft report, a total of 888 amendments were tabled, touching upon all major elements of the Commission proposal. They include amendments on the definition of "protected customer" and "essential social service", the composition of regions, supply standards and risk assessments as well as preventive action plans and emergency plans. A number of amendments replicate the rapporteur's proposal to establish emergency supply corridors to complement the regional approach. Furthermore, amendments were tabled on the obligations imposed on natural gas undertakings and information requirements in the event of an emergency crisis. Finally, numerous amendments aim to reinforce the role of energy efficiency measures in ensuring the security of gas supply. The rapporteur plans to convene a series of shadow meetings with a view to agreeing on a compromise text before the vote scheduled for 13 October.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in ITRE: 13 October 2016*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

A Word From The Chair

Dear colleagues,

This will be our second meeting in July and the last one before the summer break.

The Committee will have the pleasure of welcoming representatives of the first-ever Slovak presidency of the European Council. Mr. Peter Žiga, Minister for Economy, Mr. Roman Brecely, Minister for Transport, Construction and Regional development and Mr. Peter Plavčan, Minister for Education, Science, Research and Sport will all address the Committee to present the priorities of the Slovak presidency in their respective portfolios.

Mr Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation will also meet ITRE as part of the Structured Dialogue. Amongst other topics in his portfolio, ITRE Members will certainly be particularly interested to exchange views on the European Innovation Council (EIC) initiative and the Horizon 2020 interim evaluation.

Cost-effective emission reductions and low-carbon investments

Consideration of [amendments](#)

Draftsperson: [Fredrick Federley](#)

The Committee will discuss amendments to the proposed revision of the Emission Trading System (ETS). ITRE Members tabled 780 amendments, including the 47 amendments proposed by the Rapporteur in his draft opinion. Many of the amendments relate to the provisions on carbon leakage. More specifically, these concern production level changes, benchmarks, indirect costs and the carbon leakage list. Furthermore, a number of changes were proposed to the provisions setting up the innovation fund, particularly the number of allowances to be used for financing it. The provisional free allocation of allowances and the establishment of a modernisation fund was also subject to amendments. Negotiations among political groups are expected to start soon with a view to agreeing on compromise texts ahead of the vote foreseen for 13 October.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in ITRE: 13 October 2016*
- *Vote in ENVI (main Committee): December 2016*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

EU Strategy on Heating and Cooling

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Draftsperson: [Adam Gierek](#)

ITRE will vote on Mr. Gierek's (S&D) draft own-initiative report 'An EU Strategy for Heating and Cooling'. Members have tabled 426 amendments to the draft report, most of which are covered by the 28 compromise amendments that have been agreed by the majority of political groups.

Members will vote, among other things, on the role of the EU on promoting district heating and cooling, the use of renewable energy in heating and cooling or R&D actions and new financial instruments needed for the modernisation of this sector.

The report is expected to be voted in plenary in September. Related legislative proposals from the Commission on energy efficiency and energy performance of buildings are expected to be published in the third quarter of 2016.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in plenary: September 2016*

European statistics on natural gas and electricity prices and repealing Directive 2008/92/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning a Community procedure to improve the transparency of gas and electricity prices charged to industrial end-users

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Draftsperson: [Barbara Kappel](#)

ITRE will vote on the outcome of inter-institutional negotiations on the proposal for a Regulation on European statistics on natural gas and electricity prices. A provisional agreement with the Council was reached at the first trilogue on 15 June. The agreed text includes the wording of an ITRE amendment, ensuring that the data collection system provides comprehensible and comparable data of high quality. Furthermore, Council accepted ITRE's request to delete provisions allowing the Commission to adjust, by way of delegated acts, the threshold value (percentage share of natural gas consumption of the overall energy consumption) below which Members States would not have to report data. Instead it was agreed to set a fixed threshold of 1.5% (instead of 1%). Finally, Council accepted Parliament's request to delete a provision it had introduced, which would have exempted Member States from applying the provisions of the Regulation from the moment they apply for a derogation.

During this meeting we will vote on three files: ITRE's own-initiative report on an 'EU Strategy on Heating and Cooling' (part of the "Winter Energy Package"), the outcome of inter-institutional negotiations on the proposal for a Regulation on European statistics on natural gas and electricity prices and our position on the General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017 - all sections.

The Committee will also consider the amendments to 3 draft reports. Two of these reports are part of the 'Winter Energy Package', namely the 'Measures to safeguard the security of gas supply' and the 'EU strategy for liquefied natural gas and gas storage'. The third file 'Cost-effective emission reductions and low-carbon investments', better known as the ETS. Over 750 amendments have been tabled to ITRE's draft opinion, which proves the great importance of this file for Members of our Committee, especially given the direct relevance of ETS for European industries.

Finally, ITRE will also adopt its contribution to the resolution on the climate COP22 which is being prepared by ENVI. As in previous years, several ITRE Members will join the Parliament's delegation taking part in the COP22 meeting in Marrakesh in November.

Jerzy Buzek

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

ACER publishes its Position Paper on the regulatory oversight of (new) entities performing monopoly or near-monopoly functions at EU wide or regional level [More](#)

Subscribe to ACER news [here](#)

The Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

2016 BEREC – Regulation summit in Cancún [More](#)

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in plenary: September 2016*

General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017 - all sections

Adoption of draft opinion

Draftsperson: [Jerzy Buzek](#)

ITRE will vote on its amendments to certain budget lines of the 2017 Budget. Members tabled a total of 274 amendments on budget lines, mainly aiming at restoring the Draft Budget.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in BUDG (main Committee): 28 September 2016*
- *Vote in plenary: October I*

ITRE contribution to ENVI resolution on COP22 - Marrakesh

Adoption of compromised text

ITRE will vote on the draft text proposed as the contribution to the ENVI Motion for a Resolution on the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the 2016 UN Climate Change Conference in Marrakesh, Morocco (COP22). Twelve paragraphs have been proposed on issues relevant for the ITRE Committee, namely: industry and competitiveness, energy policy, research, innovation and digital technologies, and will be vote as a bloc. The ITRE contribution targets all countries participating at COP22.

Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Visit of Peter Žiga, Slovak Minister of Economy

With July marking the start of the Slovak Presidency, ITRE will be welcoming the Slovak Economy Minister, Peter Žiga, who is responsible for industry and energy policy. During the Slovak Presidency, ITRE will be dealing with a range of files that fall within his portfolio, including the framework for energy efficiency labelling, European statistics on natural gas and electricity prices, the security of gas supply, and the information exchange mechanism with regard to intergovernmental agreements and non-binding instruments between Member States and third countries in the field of energy.

Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Visit of Roman Brecely, Slovak Minister of Transport, Construction and Regional development

Within the context of the Slovak Presidency, ITRE will also hold an exchange of views with the Slovak Minister for Transport, Construction and Regional development, Roman Brecely. In relation to ITRE's fields of responsibility, Mr Brecely is in charge of telecoms policy. The second half of the year will see ITRE tackle several files in this area, including the revision of wholesale roaming, the revision of the regulatory framework for electronic communications, and the proposal on the use of the 470-790 MHz frequency band in the Union.

Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Visit of Peter Plavčan, Slovak Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport

The third Slovak minister invited in ITRE is Peter Plavčan, Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport. In addition to his science and research portfolio, Mr Plavčan is responsible for space policy, and he will set out the presidency priorities in these areas. During the Slovak Presidency, ITRE will be looking at the implementation report on FP7 and Horizon 2020, and the Commission space strategy.

Exchange of views with Mr Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, as part of the Structured Dialogue

Within the context of the structured dialogue with the Commission, Mr. Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, will visit ITRE to discuss the state of play of his portfolio and future developments, in particular the outcome of the public consultation and way forward regarding the European Innovation Council (EIC), the state of play and the next steps ahead with regard to the Horizon 2020 interim evaluation, the development as regards the European cloud and related open science policies. ITRE is currently preparing own-initiative reports on both issues.

European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA)

Getting ready for the European Cyber Security Month (ECSM) [More](#)

European Global Navigation Satellite System Gnss Agency (GNSS)

GSA elects Jean-Yves Le Gall chair of Administrative Board [More](#)

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT A

Recent publications:

- Briefing on "[Digital Union](#)"
- Briefing on "[Energy Policy](#)"
- At a glance on "[Energy Union: Key Decisions for the Realisation of a Fully Integrated Energy Market](#)"
- Workshop on "[Bringing EU-Turkey Trade and Investment Relations Up to Date?](#)"

Next ITRE meeting:

- 5 September 2016 in Brussels

Watch online

The Committee meetings are web-streamed and can be watched live on the [EP website](#) or on [Europarl TV](#). Past meetings can be watched or extracts downloaded via the [EP Live Multimedia Library](#). Speeches and presentations held during ITRE meetings are available on the [ITRE website](#).

ITRE Newsletter

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