

**ITRE**

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Newsletter - issue 3

22-23 February 2016

Energy efficiency labellingRapporteur: [Dario Tamburrano](#)

In the meeting of 22-23 February the rapporteur will present his draft report on the proposal for a regulation on energy efficiency labelling.

The draft report contains 181 amendments to the Commission's proposal. The proposals of the rapporteur concern, inter alia, rescaling, timeline for implementation and the database, which he sees as pivotal in order to facilitate access to information, enhance the capacity to follow market evolution and enhance trust. Many of the amendments aim to expand or restructure the original articles in the Commission's proposal, e.g. in relation to labels, delegated acts, market surveillance and safeguard procedure.

The rapporteur proposes to combine two triggers for rescaling: the occupation of energy classes by product models available in the market and the technological evolution of the respective product groups. Three options for rescaling are foreseen: standard option: C-G (two empty classes), intermediate: B-G (one empty class) and, exceptionally, A-G (no empty classes).

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE*Deadline for amendments: 3 March 2016, 12.00**Consideration of amendments: 7 April 2016**Vote in ITRE: 24 May 2016**Vote in Plenary: tbc***New Deal for Energy Consumers**Rapporteur: [Theresa Griffin](#)

Ms. Griffin will present her draft report entitled 'Delivering a New Deal for Energy Consumers' which is based on a recent Commission communication on this subject. In her draft report, the rapporteur welcomes the Commission communication and highlights the need to move away from a centralised, inflexible, fossil fuel-based energy system to one which is more decentralised, flexible and renewables-based. She considers that the aim of the Third Energy Package to provide a truly competitive and consumer-friendly retail energy market has not yet been realised and makes a number of concrete recommendations to this effect. Furthermore the rapporteur stresses the need to democratise the energy system by helping consumers take ownership of the energy transition, produce their own energy and become energy-efficient. Moreover she calls for the further development of demand response management. Finally Ms. Griffin proposes specific measures for addressing the causes of energy poverty.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE*Deadline for amendments: 25 February 2016, 12.00**Consideration of amendments: 7 April 2016**Vote in ITRE: 21 April 2016**Vote in Plenary: June 2016***A Word From The Chair**

Dear Colleagues,

ITRE's work for this year will continue with another Committee meeting packed with key debates and high-level guests. Energy will feature heavily this month, especially after the Commission adopted the energy security package a few days ago. Mr. Miguel Arias Canete, Commissioner for Energy and Climate Action will come to present this package in detail to ITRE Members. Commissioner Canete will also take part in our Public Hearing on 'Energy Costs and EU Industry Competitiveness'.

ITRE will also be discussing three more energy-related reports: one on 'Energy efficiency labelling', another on the 'New Deal for Energy Consumers' and another on 'Towards a New Energy Design'.

Towards New Energy Market Design

Rapporteur: [Werner Langen](#)

ITRE will hold an exchange of views on the draft report of Mr. Werner Langen: Towards a New Energy Market Design. The rapporteur stresses that the EU should consider a wider use of scarcity pricing in energy market design and that, generally speaking, regulated end-user prices should be discontinued. The rapporteur takes the view that following the liberalisation of the electricity market, regulatory intervention undermined investments in conventional energy production. Furthermore, the rapporteur argues that a comprehensive market analysis is needed before the areas covered by current tertiary reserves markets are broadened. Pilot projects should be created in order to test larger regional energy markets for cross-border market structures. The rapporteur is not convinced that ACER should be given significantly greater powers in the future; A European dimension of security of supply should be achieved through adequate interconnection capacities. While the rapporteur believes that the promotion of renewables should be seen as a priority, this cannot happen at the expense of affordable energy prices. Therefore, fossil fuels generated energy must remain in the energy-mix at least in the medium term. The rapporteur stresses that the balance between a centralised and decentralised energy market structure must be left primarily for the markets, and cannot be a purely policy-decision. Finally, the rapporteur does not believe that unbundling of smaller transmission grids (below 100 000 users) or harmonising transmission grid charges would be beneficial.

The draft report follows the Commission Communication and public consultation on 'A new energy market design (COM 2015/340)', which was published in July 2015. A legislative proposal on energy market design is expected at the end of 2016.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Deadline for amendments: 21 March 2016, 17.00

Consideration of amendments: 20 April 2016

Vote in ITRE: 24 May 2016

Vote in Plenary: July 2016

Space capabilities for European security and defence

Rapporteur: [Marian-Jean Marinescu](#)

Mr. Marinescu will present his opinion on space capabilities for security and defence. The opinion focuses on the current EU flagship space programmes, the possibility of a governmental satellite communication initiative and the issue of space surveillance and tracking. It also touches upon the strategic importance of European access to space.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Deadline for amendments: 25 February 2016, 12.00

Vote in ITRE: 7 April 2016

Vote in Plenary: June / 2016

New forward-looking & innovative future strategy on trade & investment

Draftsperson: [Theresa Griffin](#)

During its next meeting, the ITRE Committee will consider its draft opinion to the INTA Committee on the 'New Forward-Looking and Innovative Future Strategy on Trade and Investment'. This is the first debate in Committee on the issue. The EU's international trade policy has a significant impact on European industries and SMEs. Trade agreements open both international markets to EU companies and the internal market to competition from third-country operators. European industries, therefore, need to adapt to the new environment created by these agreements so as to take advantage of the new opportunities created and to face the new challenges on their home turf. The opinion, drafted by Ms. Griffin (S&D), also stresses the need for trade agreements to create a level playing field for EU industries and SMEs and to promulgate international conventions supporting labour, environmental and social standards related to the industries and services in question. It also touches on the impact of the international trade policy on the energy and the digital sectors.

The Committee will hold an exchange of views with Ms. Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, to discuss the state of play and future developments in those areas of his portfolio which fall under ITRE's remit. Of particular interest, of course, will be the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT) and the Joint Research Centre (JRC). We will have an opportunity to learn more about the work of these two bodies and about the impact the latest multiannual framework programmes have had on them, especially in view of the upcoming MFF review.

Other areas of ITRE's competence will also feature prominently on this month's meeting agenda. We will discuss our opinions on 'Space Capabilities for European Security and Defence' and on 'A New forward-looking and innovative future strategy on trade and investment'. The Committee will also hold a debate on its oral question and the resolution on the 'Competitiveness of the European Rail Supply Industry'.

Jerzy Buzek

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

Reducing the administrative burden for reporting about key energy infrastructure projects [More](#)

Subscribe to ACER news [here](#)

The Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

BEREC has adopted its Opinion on Phase II investigation (DE/2015/1816) [More](#)

European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA)

Call for experts for TRANSSEC - Intelligent Public Transport Resilience and Security Expert Group [More](#)

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Deadline for amendments: 25 February 2016, 12.00

Vote in ITRE: 7 April 2016

Vote in INTA: 15-16 June 2016

Competitiveness of the European Rail Supply Industry

Rapporteur: [Martina Werner](#)

During its next meeting, ITRE will consider Ms. Werner's (S&D) draft oral question and accompanying resolution on the European Rail Supply Industry. The European RSI accounts for 46 % of the world market and is a driver for industrial growth, jobs and innovation in the EU. The draft resolution touches on various issues concerning the EU RSI, including, amongst others, its global dimension and the asymmetrical market access it faces, the role of SMEs in the RSI, the necessity for the EU to nurture the right skills needed to keep its RSI innovative and the necessity for boosting investment in the RSI and to create a bigger demand for rail products in the internal market. The resolution also refers to several EU programmes, legislation and projects which have a direct or indirect impact on the RSI, such as the 'Shift2Rail' JTI, the 'Fourth Railway Package', the SME-instrument under Horizon 2020, the 'Small Business Act' and the public procurement directives.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Deadline for amendments: 25 February 2016, 12.00

Vote in ITRE: 7 April 2016

Vote in Plenary: tbc

Structured Dialogue EP/EC, Exchange of views Miguel Arias Cañete, Commissioner for Climate Action & Energy

On 22 February 2016 ITRE will welcome Mr. Miguel Arias Cañete, Commissioner responsible for Energy and Climate Action. The Commissioner will present the energy security package adopted by the Commission on 16 February 2016. This will be followed by an exchange of views with Members.

Structured Dialogue EP/EC, Exchange of views with Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport

Within the context of the structured dialogue with the Commission, Mr. Tibor Navracsics, European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, will visit ITRE to discuss the state of play and future developments in those areas of his portfolio which fall under the committee's remit. The debate is expected to focus particularly on the activities of the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT) and the Joint Research Centre (JRC).

Study on 'Open Innovation, including 3D printing', Presentation by Christine Hamza and Dieter Rehfeld, METIS

The study on open innovation, including 3D printing, will be presented to ITRE during its February meeting. The study examines new technologies and innovation concepts and how open innovation can strengthen innovation ecosystems. In particular, it describes the way open innovation and additive manufacturing can reinforce each other and includes recommendations for implementation at different policy levels.

European Global Navigation Satellite System GnsS Agency (GNSS)

Mark Your Calendars for 24 May: E-GNSS Workshop at Geospatial World Forum [More](#)

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT A

Recent publications:

- Study on ["Space Market Uptake in Europe"](#)
- Study on ["Recent Trends in Energy Prices"](#)
- Study on ["How to end Energy Poverty? Scrutiny of Current EU and Member States Instruments"](#)
- Study on ["Energy Storage: Which Market Designs and Regulatory Incentives Are Needed?"](#)
- Study on ["Open innovation in industry, including 3D printing"](#)

Public Hearing on 'Energy costs and EU industry competitiveness'

ITRE is organising a Public Hearing on "Energy Costs and EU Industry Competitiveness. Such an event allows Members to exchange views with experts concerning issues which fall within the areas of competence of the ITRE Committee.

The hearing will look at all major components of energy costs and in particular from the provider and users side. Their impact on the competitiveness of European industry will be discussed in an international context.

The hearing will start with a keynote speech by Mr. Miguel Arias Cañete, Commissioner for Climate Action & Energy. This will be followed by experts' contributions. The Committee has invited five experts to participate in the hearing, namely Mr. Jose López-Tafall Bascuñana from Acciona, Prof. Karsten Neuhoff from German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin), Mr. Wouter De Geest from BASF Belgium, Mr Sanjay Samaddar, from ArcelorMittal Europe – Flat Products, and Dr. Utz Tillmann, from German chemical industry association (VCI).



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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Further information

For further information please contact: itre-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu or visit [ITRE website](#).

Next ITRE meeting:

- 16-17 March 2016 in Brussels