

ЕВРОПЕЙСКИ ПАРЛАМЕНТ

2004



2009

Документ за разглеждане в заседание

ОКОНЧАТЕЛЕН
A6-0234/2007

13.6.2007

*****I**
ДОКЛАД

относно предложението за регламент на Европейския парламент и на Съвета относно общностна програма за етикетиране съобразно с енергийната ефективност на офисното оборудване (преработено) (COM(2006)0576 – C6-0329/2006 – 2006/0187(COD))

Комисия по промишленост, изследвания и енергетика

Докладчик: Nikolaos Vakalis

Легенда на използваните знаци

- * Процедура на консултация
мнозинство от подадените гласове
- **I Процедура на сътрудничество (първо четене)
мнозинство от подадените гласове
- **II Процедура на сътрудничество (второ четене)
мнозинство от подадените гласове за одобряване на общата позиция
мнозинство от всички членове на Парламента за отхвърляне или изменение на общата позиция
- *** Одобрение
мнозинство от всички членове на Парламента, освен в случаите по членове 105, 107, 161 и 300 от Договора за ЕО и член 7 от Договора за ЕС
- ***I Процедура на съвместно вземане на решение (първо четене)
мнозинство от подадените гласове
- ***II Процедура на съвместно вземане на решение (второ четене)
мнозинство от подадените гласове за одобряване на общата позиция
мнозинство от всички членове на Парламента за отхвърляне или изменение на общата позиция
- ***III Процедура на съвместно вземане на решение (трето четене)
мнозинство от подадените гласове за одобрение на съвместния проект

(Посочената процедура се базира на правната основа, предложена от Комисията.)

Изменения на законодателен текст

Измененията, внесени от Парламента, са отбелязани с ***получер курсив***. Отбелязването *в курсив* е предназначено за съответните специализирани отдели. То е средство за комуникация между специализираните служби на двете институции и се отнася до частите от законодателния текст, за които е предложено изменение с цел изготвяне на окончателния текст (например очевидно грешни или липсващи части в дадена езикова версия). Поправките от този вид подлежат на съгласуване между съответните служби.

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ПРОЕКТ НА ЗАКОНОДАТЕЛНА РЕЗОЛЮЦИЯ НА ЕВРОПЕЙСКИЯ ПАРЛАМЕНТ

относно предложението за регламент на Европейския парламент и на Съвета относно общността програма за етикетирание съобразно с енергийната ефективност на офисното оборудване (преработено)
(COM(2006)0576 – C6-0329/2006 – 2006/0187(COD))

(Процедура на съвместно вземане на решение: първо четене)

Европейският парламент,

- като взе предвид предложението на Комисията към Европейския парламент и към Съвета (COM(2006)0576)¹,
 - като взе предвид член 251, параграф 2 и член 175, параграф 1 от Договора за ЕО, съгласно които предложението му е представено от Комисията (C6-0329/2006),
 - като взе предвид член 51 от своя правилник,
 - като взе предвид доклада на комисия по промишленост, изследвания и енергетика (A6-0234/2007),
1. одобрява предложението на Комисията във вида, в който е изменено;
 2. призовава Комисията да се отнесе до него отново, в случай че възнамерява да внесе съществени изменения в своето предложение или да го замени с друг текст;
 3. възлага на своя председател да предаде позицията на Парламента, на Съвета и на Комисията.

Текст, предложен от Комисията

Изменения, внесени от Парламента

Изменение 1 Съображение 3

(3) Improving the energy efficiency of office equipment contributes to improving the competitiveness of the Community and the security of its energy supply and to protecting the environment.

(3) Подобряването на енергийната ефективност на офисното оборудване допринася за подобряване на конкурентноспособността на Общността и сигурността на нейните енергийни доставки, както и за защитата на околната среда **и потребителите**.

¹ Все още непубликувано в ОВ.

Обосновка

It has to be made clear that apart from the overall energy and environmental benefit, the consumer has a strong motive to choose energy efficient office equipment, also because of the important financial benefit resulting from the reduction of energy consumption the consumer has to pay for.

Изменение 2 Съображение 13

(13) The Energy Star label is used worldwide. In order to influence the requirements of the Energy Star labelling scheme, the Community should participate in this labelling scheme and in drawing up the necessary technical specifications. When setting the technical criteria together with the US Environmental Protection Agency the Commission should aim at ambitious levels of energy efficiency.

(13) Етикетът „Енергийна звезда“ се използва в световен мащаб. За да може да оказва влияние върху изискванията на схемата за етикетирание „Енергийна звезда“, Общността следва да участва в гореспоменатата схема за етикетирание и в изготвянето на необходимите технически спецификации. При определянето на технически критерии, съвместно с Агенцията за защита на околната среда на САЩ, Комисията следва да се стреми към високо равнище на енергийна ефективност, **с оглед на общностната политика за енергийна ефективност и нейните цели в тази област.**

Обосновка

Energy efficiency is one of European Union's main energy policies expressed in numerous EC documents. The Energy Star regulation must be tuned to the abovementioned energy efficiency policies and targets set by the EU.

Изменение 3 Член 5, параграф 2

2. The decision to authorise an applicant to become a programme participant shall be taken by the Commission, after verifying that the applicant has agreed to comply with the Common Logo user guideline contained in Annex B to the Agreement. The Commission shall publish on the internet an updated list of programme participants.

2. Решението да се разреши на определен кандидат да стане участник в програмата се взема от Комисията, след като се установи, че кандидатът е съгласен да спазва указанията за използване на „Общо лого“, съдържащи се в Приложение Б към Споразумението. Комисията публикува в интернет актуализиран списък на

участниците в програмата и го съобщава редовно на държавите-членки.

Обосновка

Notifying Member States of the participants of the Programme is an easy and very low cost action (e.g. sending an e-mail with the list of participants attached), but is possibly an action with great impact on keeping the Member States updated and aware.

Изменение 4

Член 6

In order to encourage the purchase of energy-efficient office equipment products, the Commission and other Community institutions, as well as ***other public authorities at national level***, shall, without prejudice to Community and national law and economic criteria, ***encourage the use of*** energy-efficiency requirements not less demanding than the Energy Star Common Specifications ***when defining their requirements for procurement of office equipment products.***

За срока на действие на споразумението и без да се накърняват общностните и националните правни и икономически критерии, Комисията и другите общностни институции, както и ***централни правителствени органи по смисъла на Директива 2004/18/ЕО, определят, по отношение на обществените поръчки за доставка, отговарящи на стойностите, предвидени в член 7 на гореспоменатата директива,*** критерии за енергийна ефективност, не по-малко стриктни от общите спецификации „Енергийна звезда“.

Обосновка

The public sector should set the example in attaining the energy efficiency targets of the EU. Public procurement is the best framework for promoting advanced products, especially energy consuming products, not only by setting the example to the consumer but also by giving a decisive boost to the market demand for energy efficient products.

Изменение 5

Член 8, параграф 2а (нов)

2а. Комисията, подпомогната от Съвета „Енергийна звезда“ на Европейската общност (СЕЗЕО), следи за пазарното проникване на продуктите, които носят логото на Общността, както и за развитието

**на енергийната ефикасност на
офисното оборудване с оглед
навременното преразглеждане на
техническите спецификации.**

Обосновка

The Commission's intention to launch a tender for a market survey on office equipment to support future upgrades of the energy-efficiency criteria, as stated in the explanatory memorandum of the proposal, must also be provided by the Regulation. The key role of the EU under the Energy Star Agreement is its participation in the revision of the technical criteria. Therefore, any action towards supporting this role should be strengthened.

Изменение 6

Член 10, параграф 1, буква б а) (нова)

**ба) образователни и рекламни
инициативи;**

Обосновка

Promotion of Energy Star products is necessary. The Commission and the Member States have the responsibility to attain the energy efficiency targets that they have set and therefore several measures need to be taken to that direction. Money gained by energy savings will compensate by far what is spent to inform the consumers. After all, raising awareness does not have to cost a lot to the European taxpayer and can be integrated into other measures promoting energy efficiency.

Изменение 7

Член 11, параграф 3а (нов)

**3а. Когато членовете на СЕЗЕО
представят своите виждания на
Комисията, те отчитат
резултатите от проучванията за
осъществимост и пазарните
проучвания, както и наличните
технологии за намаляване на
потреблението на енергия.**

Обосновка

As already stated, the role of the ECESB must be upgraded, not under-graded. Therefore, when the representatives present their opinion on the revision of the technical criteria, they should have a working knowledge of the most recent study results. The revision of the

technical criteria is vital for the functioning of the Programme and the only way to add EU value to an American programme.

Изменение 8
Член 11, параграф 4

4. The Commission shall take particular account of the objective of setting Common Specifications at an ambitious level, as provided for in Article I, paragraph 4 of the Agreement, with the aim of reducing energy consumption with due regard for the technology available and the associated costs.

4. Комисията отделя особено внимание на стремежа за определяне на амбициозни общи спецификации, както е предвидено от член I, параграф 4 на Споразумението, с цел намаляване на консумацията на енергия, като се отчитат надлежно наличните технологии и свързаните с тях разходи. ***По-специално, преди да представи вижданията си относно нови спецификации, Съветът „Енергийна звезда“ на Европейската общност (СЕЗЕО) взема под внимание последните резултати от проучванията в областта на екологичния дизайн.***

Обосновка

As already stated, the role of the ECESB must be upgraded, not under-graded. Therefore, when the representatives present their opinion on the revision of the technical criteria, they should have a working knowledge of the most recent study results. The revision of the technical criteria is vital for the functioning of the Programme and the only way to add EU value to an American programme.

Изменение 9
Член 12 а (нов)

Член 12а

Оценка

Една година преди изтичане на споразумението, Комисията изработва и представя на Европейския парламент и Съвета доклад, наблюдаващ енергийната ефективност на пазара на офисно оборудване в Общността и даващ оценка на ефективността на

**програмата „Енергийна звезда“.
Докладът включва както качествени,
така и количествени данни.
Докладът включва също така данни
относно ползите, извлечени от
програмата „Енергийна звезда“, а
именно, енергоспестяването и
екологичните ползи по отношение на
намаляването на емисиите на
въглероден двуокис.**

Обосновка

It is unfortunate that the Commission has no statistical or other quantitative data deriving from the implementation of the Regulation (e.g. energy savings, number of products sold, etc.) and their comparison with respective data in the USA or other countries in the world. Timely submission of the evaluation report will enable the legislators and policy makers to take the right decisions with respect to future implementation.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. Introduction

The purpose of the proposed regulation is to implement the new Agreement signed on 20 December 2006 between the Government of the USA and the EC on the co-ordination of energy-efficiency labelling programmes for office equipment¹, recasting Regulation 2422/2001/EC. The initial EC-US Energy Star Agreement was signed in 2000² and expired in June 2006. The EU decided to renew the Agreement in order to continue using the Energy Star programme for a second five-year period.

2. Why does the EU need to promote energy efficient office equipment?

- Energy efficiency accounts for a large part of energy savings and is rightly considered one of the main pillars for a sustainable energy policy for Europe. In an era of growing demand for energy and increasing energy prices, a strong energy efficiency policy will contribute to 1) reduction of energy imports, and thus increased security of energy supply, 2) reduction of energy costs, and thus enhanced competitiveness of the European economy, 3) reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and thus increased environmental benefits.
- Office equipment takes an ever-increasing share of energy consumption in the Community.
- National efforts to improve energy efficiency are not enough.
- Common global efforts towards promoting energy efficiency must be made to complement EU energy efficiency policy.

3. The new EC-US Energy Star Agreement

This new Agreement requires that the energy efficiency criteria (technical specifications) - criteria to be met by a product in order for it to qualify for the Energy Star label - must be demanding and regularly revised. There are significant improvements compared to the previous Agreement. First, the label can only represent the top 25% of models for which data are available at the time the criteria are set. Second, both standby and on-mode energy consumption are covered. As an example, the new specifications for imaging equipment (copiers, printers, scanners, faxes) are estimated to save 17 TWh in EU-25 over the next three years.

The technical specifications, developed jointly by the US and the EC through their respective management entities (i.e. the US Environmental Protection Agency and the Commission) and in co-operation with stakeholders, are automatically applied to all bilateral Agreements of the USA with third countries. Demanding criteria serve as an incentive for manufacturers to

² OJ L 172 of 26.6.2001, p. 3.

improve the energy performance of their products in order to qualify for the label. Products qualifying for the label are registered in a database.

4. Why promote a US scheme?

At first glance, it may seem strange that the EU should rely on a programme originally conceived and owned by an American entity (i.e. the USEPA). However, the rapporteur is of the opinion that the Energy Star scheme can offer real advantages to the EU in terms of pursuing the objective of increasing energy efficiency.

The Energy Star Agreement provides the EU with the opportunity to play a decisive role in an internationally known programme defining energy efficiency benchmarks. The voluntary nature of the scheme suits the need for flexibility, since manufacturers adjust to technological developments without having to comply with yet another new label created from scratch. A considerable number of EU laws already exist in the field of energy labelling, e.g. the “A to G scale” energy labelling for household appliances, the Eco-design scheme, and the Eco-label award. Implementing this programme exclusively in the field of office equipment is an acceptable way of directing the market towards energy efficient products by complementing existing EC legislation rather than multiplying existing labels and adding administrative costs.

This approach also positively impacts trade. The Energy Star label is used worldwide and is widely accepted by manufacturers. It is already implemented by key international market players (USA, EU, Japan, and others) and can naturally serve as a platform for international harmonisation of energy efficiency measures, leading to reduced implementation costs and to increased energy efficiency awareness by consumers. Even though the Energy Star logo is recognisable on many US products in use in Europe, the rapporteur firmly believes that EU industry has nothing to fear from international competition as long as it continues to fulfil high technical standards.

5. Promoting Energy Star products

Based on the understanding that the EU can benefit from the Energy Star scheme, it is the duty of the rapporteur to propose amendments that will most effectively promote Energy Star office equipment products. This promotion shall be directed to both the consumer and the European manufacturer. The primary means to reach both target groups is through raising awareness and through public procurement.

a. Information and awareness raising measures

Promotion to the consumers requires the adoption of information and awareness raising measures targeting both the private and the public sector. Such measures should aim to enhance the recognisability of the Energy Star label. Consumers should be informed of the potential energy savings and environmental benefits gained from the purchase of an Energy Star office equipment product.

The voluntary nature of the Energy Star programme for the manufacturers should not preclude the obligation to promote the programme. More demand for such products from the consumers will increase supply from the manufacturers. While voluntarily registering in the Energy Star database allows manufacturers to become visible for (public) procurement, the

rapporteur believes that this on its own is not enough of an incentive. Complementary measures promoting the programme to manufacturers, suppliers, dealers and most of all to the general public are needed. After all, raising awareness does not have to cost a lot to the European taxpayer and can be integrated into other measures promoting energy efficiency. Money gained by energy savings will compensate by far what is spent to inform the consumers.

b. Public procurement

The free play of the market alone will not suffice for rapidly achieving established energy efficiency targets. Therefore, the European Parliament must convey a strong message in favour of committing the public sector to energy efficient office equipment products and thus the rapporteur is strongly in favour of a mandatory public procurement provision, because

- As seen from the US experience (where federal agencies are required to purchase Energy Star qualified products) and widely acknowledged, not least by the Commission itself¹, if the public authorities are required to procure equipment at least as energy efficient as set in the Energy Star technical specifications, this will further boost the market towards more efficient equipment. Indeed, this will happen because public procurement represents a large share of the market which manufacturers are interested in reaching.
- As public procurement increases the demand for products with stringent technical specifications, we can expect that specifications will quickly become more demanding, thus leading to rapid results in energy savings.
- Increasing demand may lower the actual market cost of energy efficient office equipment.
- The public sector should set the example in attaining EU energy efficiency targets.

6. The role of the EC Energy Star Board (ECESB)

The EU is the only USA partner which participates in the revision of the technical criteria, a key function under the Energy Star programme and a decisive factor in determining energy profits. Therefore, the EU needs the ECESB to be a strong consultative instrument in order to assist the Commission in the formulation and revision of technical specifications since this process lies at the heart of office equipment energy savings.

The rapporteur agrees with the Commission that the European taxpayer's money should be channelled in priority to productive expenses, avoiding unnecessarily burdensome bureaucratic measures. Nevertheless, we should not downgrade, but rather upgrade the ECESB since it has a significant role to play.

7. Assuring the credibility of the label – Reporting requirements

The credibility of the products bearing the Energy Star logo is the foundation for the success of the programme. Since manufacturers register in the Energy Star database through self-

¹ See Commission Communication to the Council and the European Parliament on the implementation of the Energy Star programme in the European Community in the period 2001-2005 (COM(2006) 140 final, 27.3.2006), p. 5 and 8.

certification, some means of evaluation and control must be set up in order to preserve the proper functioning of the whole mechanism. The question is whether we can rely on ad hoc measurements on office equipment made by MS, consumer organisations, specialised magazines etc. or whether the Commission should take more direct action in order to keep stakeholders continuously updated and informed. Regular controls will guarantee the credibility of the label without countering its voluntary nature. The label should only be used if products fully comply with the labelling scheme requirements.

The proposed regulation drastically reduces, or even eliminates, what the Commission considers excessive administrative burdens. However, any improvements in the data gathering and evaluation of the Energy Star programme will undoubtedly contribute to the better promotion of energy efficient office equipment. Relevant technical and quantitative data are needed in order to be able to assess the costs and benefits from the proper implementation of the programme. These data should be publicly available, easily accessible and regularly updated in order to boost the programme's recognisability and to mobilise stakeholders, especially industry, procurers and consumers.

Apart from data intended to keep civil society stakeholders informed, we also have to examine the need to actively inform the EU institutions and the MS. The Commission seems to wish to eliminate all existing formal reporting requirements, given its scarce resources. All the same, it is unfortunate that the Commission has no quantitative data on the implementation of the Regulation (e.g. energy savings, number of products sold etc.) when such data exist in the USA and other countries in the world. Communication of these data will enable the legislators and policy makers to take the right decisions with respect to future implementation and to better co-ordinate national efforts. The purpose of the relevant amendments proposed by the rapporteur is to stimulate the Commission and the MS into taking seriously their responsibility of attaining the energy efficiency targets they have set for themselves.

ПРОЦЕДУРА

Заглавие	Програма за етикетиране съобразно с енергийната ефективност на офисното оборудване (преработено предложение)		
Позовавания	COM(2006)0576 - C6-0329/2006 - 2006/0187(COD)		
Дата на представяне на ЕП	4.10.2006 г.		
Водеща комисия Дата на обявяване в заседание	ITRE 12.10.2006 г.		
Комисия(и), сезирана(и) за становище Дата на обявяване в заседание	ENVI 12.10.2006 г.		
Неизказано становище Дата на решението	ENVI 28.11.2006 г.		
Докладчик(ци) Дата на назначаване	Nikolaos Vakalis 23.11.2006 г.		
Разглеждане в комисия	30.1.2007 г.	12.4.2007 г.	7.6.2007 г.
Дата на приемане	7.6.2007 г.		
Резултат от окончателното гласуване	+: 34	-: 0	0: 0
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