



24.7.2020

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Subject: Petition No 0417/2019 by Michele Campanelli (Italian) on the incorrect transposition of Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency in Italy

1. Summary of petition

Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency in Italy

The petitioner complains about the huge cost he has incurred in installing a heat meter and denounces the incorrect transposition of Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency in Italy, because the transposition decree does not allow a comparison between alternative means of heating (condensing boiler).

2. Admissibility

Declared admissible on 7 October 2019. Information requested from Commission under Rule 227 (6).

3. Commission reply, received on 24 July 2020

The Commission's observations

Directive 2012/27/EU¹ promotes efficiency in cogeneration and in district heating based on a comprehensive assessment of the potential for efficient district heating. The analysis should cover the whole territory and, based on climate conditions, economic feasibility and technical

¹ Directive 2012/27/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on energy efficiency, amending Directives 2009/125/EC and 2010/30/EU and repealing Directives 2004/8/EC and 2006/32/EC Text with EEA relevance, *OJ L 315*, 14.11.2012, p. 1–56.

suitability, facilitate identification of the most resource and cost efficient solutions to meet heating needs.

The Directive also requires, under Article 14(5) and 14(7), a specific cost-benefit analysis to be carried out, and taken into consideration, respectively, when certain types of energy generation installations are being planned and authorised. The assessment shall take into account the potential benefits of high-efficient cogeneration installation or utilising waste heat from nearby industrial installations.

Its Article 9 also stipulates that Member States shall ensure that, in so far as it is technically possible, financially reasonable and proportionate, final customers for district heating are provided with competitively priced individual meters that accurately reflect their actual energy consumption.

The above rules of Directive 2012/27/EU have been correctly enacted into Italian laws.

The petition refers to high (30%) losses in the pipes but it is not clear whether the pipes referred to are the district heating pipes, or the pipes within the building concerned. The petition also quotes a cost for a heat meter which indeed appears unusually high, but does not allow to identify the reason for this price being so high.

It is not clear to the Commission exactly which provisions in Directive 2012/27/EU would not have been complied with, in the petitioner's view. The petition quotes a formula from Annex I of the Directive that is intended to be used for quantifying the amount of electricity produced from cogeneration plants. It is not clear how this is relevant if the petitioner's concerns are related to high losses somewhere in the heat distribution system. The petition states that "Italy has failed to implement Directive 2012/27/EU correctly, since it has made no provision for comparison between alternative heating systems". However, the Directive does not require such a comparison for each individual consumer and individual heat source. As set out above, the Directive only requires a comprehensive assessment for the whole territory, and the cost-benefit analysis should be carried out in order to take into account the potential for high-efficient cogeneration. Therefore, the petitioner's claim has no basis in the Directive. .

Conclusion

The information provided by the petitioner is not sufficient for the Commission to assess whether the Italian authorities have correctly applied the respective EU rules in his individual case.