DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Question for Oral Answer B9-0008/2020

pursuant to Rule 136(5) of the Rules of Procedure

on the revision of the guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure (2020/2549(RSP))

Cristian-Silviu Bușoi
on behalf of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy
The European Parliament,


– having regard to the Council Decision (EU) 2016/1841 of 5 October 2016 on the conclusion on behalf of the European Union of the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change³,

– having regard to its resolution of 4 October 2017 on the 2017 UN Climate Change Conference in Bonn, Germany (COP23) (2017/2620(RSP)),

– having regard to the Communication of the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on ‘A Clean Planet for all: A European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy’ (COM/2018/773 final),

– having regard to its resolution of 25 October 2018 on the 2018 UN Climate Change Conference in Katowice, Poland (COP24) (2018/2598(RSP)),

– having regard to the ‘Clean Energy for all Europeans’ legislative package,

– having regard to its resolution of 28 November 2019 on the 2019 UN Climate Change Conference in Madrid, Spain (COP 25) (2019/2712(RSP)),

– having regard to the Conclusions adopted by the European Council on 12 December 2019 endorsing the objective of achieving a climate-neutral Union by 2050,

¹ OJ L 115, 25.4.2013, p. 39
– having regard to its resolution of 28 November 2019 on the climate and environment emergency (2019/2930(RSP)),

– having regard to the Communication of the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the ‘European Green Deal’ COM(2019)640,

– having regard to the energy lending criteria of the European Investment Bank,

– having regard to its resolution of 15 January 2020 on the ‘European Green Deal’ (2019/2956(RSP)),

– having regard to Article 172 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

– having regard to the question to the Commission (O-000012/2020 – B9-0008/2020) on the revision of the guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure,

– having regard to Rule 132(2) and (4) and Rule 136(5) of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure (‘TEN-E Regulation’) lays down rules for the timely development and interoperability of TEN-E networks in order to achieve the Union’s energy policy objectives;

B. whereas the TEN-E Regulation identifies priority corridors and thematic areas of trans-European energy infrastructure and provides guidelines for the selection of Projects of Common Interest (PCIs); the TEN-E Regulation establishes that PCIs can benefit from financial support from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), streamlined permitting, specific regulatory treatment providing access to cross-border cost-allocation mechanisms and incentives, and increased transparency;

C. whereas the first list of PCIs was established in 2013 by delegated Regulation (EU) 1391/2013 containing 248 PCIs, the second list was established by delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/89 containing 195 PCIs, and the third list was established by delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/540 containing 173 PCIs; the Commission adopted the fourth PCI list on 31 October 2019, containing 151 PCIs;

D. whereas, as reflected in Parliament’s first reading position of 17 April 2019 on the proposal for a regulation on the Connecting Europe Facility for the period 2021-2027, the co-legislators have provisionally agreed that the Commission should evaluate the effectiveness and policy coherence of the TEN-E Regulation considering, inter alia, the Union energy and climate targets for 2030, the EU long-term decarbonisation commitment, and the energy efficiency first principle and submit an evaluation to the European Parliament and to the Council by 31 December 2020;

E. whereas the TEN-E Regulation was adopted before the adoption of the Paris Agreement, which commits to "holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels";

F. whereas several developments have significantly changed the landscape for energy
policy in the Union since the adoption of the TEN-E Regulation in 2013;

G. whereas energy plays a central role in the transition to a net-zero GHG emissions economy and therefore efforts to continue decarbonising the energy system are necessary to enable the Union to reach net zero emissions by 2050 at the latest, while at the same time tackle the transition of other sectors and cope with an increased electricity demand;

H. whereas with the aim to achieve its climate and energy goals and to enhance smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, the Union needs an up-to-date, high-performance energy infrastructure that is future-proof, cost-efficient and can provide the security of energy supply, including diversification of routes, sources and suppliers;

I. whereas the TEN-E Regulation identifies the trans-European energy infrastructure priorities which need to be implemented in order to meet the Union's energy and climate policy objectives, and identifies projects of common interest necessary to implement those priorities;

J. whereas priority corridors and areas as well as the eligibility criteria should follow the evolution of the energy system and maintain their consistency with the Union policy priorities, in particular in the context of the long-term decarbonisation pathway;

K. whereas adequate infrastructure deployment and energy efficiency policies should be used in a complementary way to help reach the Union objectives and targets as cost-effectively as possible;

L. whereas Parliament, in its resolution on the European Green Deal, calls for “a revision of TEN-E guidelines before the adoption of the next PCI list;

1. Welcomes the announcement in the European Green Deal communication that the revision of the TEN-E guidelines will take place on 2020;

2. Calls on the Commission to come forward with a proposal, by the end of 2020 at the latest, for a revision of the TEN-E guidelines considering, in particular, the Union energy and climate targets for 2030, the Union’s long-term decarbonisation commitment, and the energy efficiency first principle;

3. Calls on the Commission to propose transitional guidance on spending under the Connecting Europe Facility and on the selection of projects for the 5th PCI list by end of 2020 to ensure that spending and selection is in line with commitments made under the Paris Agreement;

4. Considers that the criteria for granting PCI status laid down in the TEN-E guidelines must be in line with the Union climate and energy objectives, including the 2050 climate neutrality objective as indicated in the European Council Conclusions of December 2019 and with all five dimensions of the Energy union, including the objective of affordability;
5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and to the governments and parliaments of the Member States.