


Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	1997/0302(CNS)	Procedure completed
Energy sector: multiannual framework programme 1998-2002		
Subject 3.60 Energy policy		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy	PPE VAN VELZEN W.G.	22/01/1998
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		18/05/1998
		GUE/NGL SEPPÄNEN Esko	
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2151	14/12/1998
	Energy	2132	13/11/1998
	Energy	2092	11/05/1998

Key events			
18/11/1997	Legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0550	Summary
16/02/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
11/05/1998	Debate in Council	2092	
23/09/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
23/09/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0340/1998	
08/10/1998	Debate in Parliament		
08/10/1998	Decision by Parliament	T4-0572/1998	Summary
20/10/1998	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0607	Summary
14/12/1998	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		

14/12/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
13/01/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1997/0302(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 235
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENER/4/09754

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(1997)0550	18/11/1997	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES0631/1998 OJ C 214 10.07.1998, p. 0044	29/04/1998	ESC	
Committee of the Regions: opinion		CDR0056/1998 OJ C 315 13.10.1998, p. 0001	15/07/1998	CofR	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0340/1998 OJ C 328 26.10.1998, p. 0004	23/09/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0572/1998 OJ C 328 26.10.1998, p. 0136-0173	08/10/1998	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal		COM(1998)0607	20/10/1998	EC	Summary
Follow-up document		COM(2002)0448	07/08/2002	EC	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act
Decision 1999/21 OJ L 007 13.01.1999, p. 0016 Summary

Energy sector: multiannual framework programme 1998-2002

OBJECTIVE: to adopt a multiannual framework programme for actions in the energy sector (1998-2002). **SUBSTANCE:** the Commission proposes to bring together in a single framework programme all the Union's energy policy measures in order to make them more transparent and effective and to coordinate them better. The framework programme, for which the Commission proposes a budget of ECU 200.4 m for 1998-2002, provides a general legal basis for specific projects and measures, to be formulated and adopted by the Council. It will be implemented by means of six specific programmes, of a horizontal or thematic nature, corresponding to the following measures: 1) development of a regular programme to monitor markets and energy trends; 2) stepping-up of international cooperation in the field of energy, with a view to encouraging greater diversification of energy sources and greater stability in international markets, particularly in gas and oil; 3) promoting new and renewable energy sources and implementation of a strategy and Community action plan in this area up to 2010; 4) encouraging rational and efficient use of energy resources; 5) contributing to the revitalization of the coal industry by using cleaner technologies; 6) improving nuclear energy safety. The aim of all these measures is to attain the Union's priority objectives for energy policy, namely to guarantee security of energy supply, maintain competitiveness and promote compatibility between the development of the energy

market and the objectives of environmental protection. In order to ensure that the decision-making process is effective, the Commission proposes to set up a single committee, consultative in nature, for the whole of the framework programme, to manage the specific measures; it will coordinate the energy measures undertaken under the various Community policies. ?

Energy sector: multiannual framework programme 1998-2002

The Committee adopted the report in the field of multiannual energy programmes: It is to do with the simplification and coordination of energy policy and is designed to establish priorities. This report by W.G. VAN VELZEN (EPP, NL) deals with the framework programme for actions in the energy sector (1998-2002) and connected measures. The rapporteur welcomed the Commission proposal for an energy framework programme, which was in response to repeated requests from Parliament and Council to increase the coherence, efficiency and transparency of Community actions in the energy sector. It will provide a stable legal basis and improve the coordination of all the measures. The programme would also help to respond better to the EU's key energy problems of security of supply, competitiveness and the environment. At present, actions and programmes (e.g. SAVE, ALTENER and SYNERGY) are based on separate legal acts, timeframes and management committees. They would now come within a single framework. However, MEPs wanted to go further. They called for the establishment of a monitoring system for the implementation of the internal energy market, the strengthening of support in the context of the enlargement process, greater emphasis on the role of energy in the post-Kyoto strategy on climate change and on the key role of combined heat and power, forward analyses and market monitoring, etc. ?

Energy sector: multiannual framework programme 1998-2002

In adopting the report by Mr W.G. VAN VELZEN (PPE, NL), the European Parliament amended the Commission's proposal on a Multiannual Framework Programme for actions in the energy sector. In its amendments Parliament called for: - the addition of a seventh specific programme concerning the introduction of a system to monitor the implementation by the Member States of the internal market in energy (electricity and gas Directives); - recognition of the key role of combined heat and power; - promoting a reduction in consumption of resources while improving the employment situation, particularly by fiscal means; - stepping up the support for energy already provided for under the enlargement process: better coordination of the PHARE and international energy cooperation (SYNERGY) programmes; opening up energy saving programmes (SAVE), renewable energy programmes (ALTENER) and solid fuel programmes to the applicant countries; stepping up cooperation with the EBRD, EIB and World Bank; - redoubling coordination with other Community policies (Structural Funds, environment and research); - insertion in the Treaties of a chapter devoted to energy, granting Parliament a right of codecision.?

Energy sector: multiannual framework programme 1998-2002

The Commission's amended proposal incorporates the majority of amendments adopted by the European Parliament, particularly with regard to the key objectives of improving coherence, co-ordination and transparency of actions undertaken in the energy sector. The Commission has therefore amended its initial proposal, notably in the following areas: - recognition of the key importance of the promotion of combined heat and power; - strengthening the coherence of EU energy policy with environmental policies, energy taxation, structural funds, research and development, the implementation of the partnership agreements with Central and Eastern European countries, and the Energy Charter Treaty; - closer cooperation with the EBRD, the EIB and the World Bank.?

Energy sector: multiannual framework programme 1998-2002

OBJECTIVE: to adopt a multiannual framework programme for actions in the energy sector (1998-2002) and connected measures. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Decision 1999/21/EC, Euratom. CONTENTS: The Council has adopted a multiannual framework programme for Community actions in the energy sector for the period 1998-2002. The main aim of the programme is to attain the priority objectives for energy policy, namely security of supply, competitiveness and environmental protection. It also helps to make all actions in the energy sector more transparent and coherent and to coordinate them better and to ensure that financial resources are used efficiently. Efforts are also being made to achieve complementarity with initiatives under research policy or trans-European networks. This programme will be implemented by means of six specific programmes, of a horizontal or thematic nature, corresponding to the following measures: 1) development of a regular programme to monitor markets and energy trends; 2) stepping-up of international cooperation in the field of energy; 3) promoting renewable energy sources; 4) encouraging rational and efficient use of energy resources; 5) promoting the use of cleaner technologies in the solid fuel sector; 6) improving nuclear energy safety. The reference amount for implementing the programme is ECU 170 m, of which ECU 68 m are for the 1998/1999 period. The period of the programme after the year 2000 will be reviewed before the end of that year.?

Energy sector: multiannual framework programme 1998-2002

The Commission has presented a Communication on its comments on the conclusions of the Mid-term Assessment of the Energy Framework Programme (1998-2002). The mid-term assessment was conducted by a committed Panel of high-level, independent experts. The Commission considers that the Panel produced a balanced and comprehensive report, combining recognition and criticism, and covering the whole framework programme activities. Four main messages emerge from the overall report: - there is a real need for a new energy programme to follow on from the current EFP. It is recommended that the current framework programme should evolve to a single programme that retains three of its current areas of activity - energy efficiency, renewable energy, and international co-operation and includes an new, additional area on the energy aspects of transport. - the new programme should be designed to take account of and influence the energy components of other Community programmes. It is recommended that the programme should be managed within a structure that assures that an effective guiding and co-ordinating role can be played. - the EFP has virtually no public image and has been operating as six separate

programmes. As a result, the links between the programmes were generally weak and hardly any synergy has been created. The exceptions are SAVE and ALTENER. At the same time, specific programmes were considered to be generally well run, funding good projects and producing useful outputs. - in spite of sectoral achievements and successes, all six programmes were considered to suffer from a serious lack of resources, both financial and human. All programmes paid insufficient attention to dissemination of project outputs and impact assessment. The Panel considers that the future energy programme should be given a substantially greater budget than the EUR 175 Million that the EFP has had for the period 1998-2002. Furthermore, consideration should be given to externalising the day-today management of the new programme, notably by means of establishing an agency for that purpose. In preparing its proposal for a multiannual energy programme "Intelligent Energy for Europe, 2003-2006", the Commission has taken due account of the recommendations of previous EFP evaluations, as well as of the preliminary findings provided by the Panel in their interim report. In this context, the Commission is proposing a single energy programme covering the four identified areas of activity in which the work programme will include detailed rules for coordination and linkage with other Community policies and Member States' actions in the energy field. The proposal also emphasises the need for more effective and systematic dissemination and impact assessment of future programme developments. However, the Commission is still examining alternative management structures in order to identify the most cost-effective solution for the implementation of the programme.?