


# Procedure file

Basic information		
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	<a href="#">2000/2265(COS)</a>	Procedure completed
Energy efficiency: action plan		
Subject 3.60 Energy policy		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>ITRE</b> Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		06/06/2000
		PPE-DE <a href="#">WIJKMAN Anders</a>	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy		21/11/2000
		NI <a href="#">KRONBERGER Hans</a>	
	<b>RETT</b> Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism		21/11/2000
		GUE/NGL <a href="#">BAKOPOULOS Emmanouil</a>	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Energy	<a href="#">2267</a>	30/05/2000
European Commission	Commission DG Energy and Transport	Commissioner	

Key events			
26/04/2000	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2000)0247	Summary
30/05/2000	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		
13/11/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
06/02/2001	Vote in committee		Summary
06/02/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	<a href="#">A5-0054/2001</a>	
13/03/2001	Debate in Parliament		
14/03/2001	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0141/2001</a>	Summary
14/03/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
05/12/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/2265(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/5/12729

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		COM(2000)0247	26/04/2000	EC	Summary
Committee of the Regions: opinion		<a href="#">CDR0270/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 144 16.05.2001, p. 0017</a>	13/12/2000	CofR	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		<a href="#">A5-0054/2001</a>	06/02/2001	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		<a href="#">T5-0141/2001</a> <a href="#">OJ C 343 05.12.2001, p. 0107-0190</a>	14/03/2001	EP	Summary

## Energy efficiency: action plan

**PURPOSE :** to present the Action Plan to improve energy efficiency in the European Community. **CONTENT :** there is a pressing need to renew commitment both at Community and Member State level to promote energy efficiency more actively. This is especially true when seen in the light of the Kyoto agreement to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, where improved energy efficiency will play a key role in meeting the EU Kyoto target economically. This Action Plan to improve energy efficiency outlines policies and measures for the removal of these barriers and the realisation of this potential. If a proposed indicative target for improvement of energy intensity by an additional one percentage point per year above the estimated yearly baseline change is met, that can realise two-thirds of the available savings potential by the year 2010. This would result in avoided energy consumption over 100 Mtoe, equivalent to avoided CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of almost 200Mt/year or around 40% of the EU Kyoto commitment. Meeting the Community-wide target of doubling the use of cogeneration to 18% of the EU electricity production by 2010 is expected to lead to additional avoided CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of over 65 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>/year by 2010. Three groups of mechanisms for improving energy efficiency are put forward: - measures to enhance the integration of energy efficiency into other Community non-energy policy and programme areas such as regional and urban policy, taxation and tariff policy, etc; - measures for re-focusing and reintroducing existing successful Community energy-efficiency measures; - new common and co-ordinated policies and measures. Furthermore, the Action Plan must be read and seen against the background of the Commission Communication and the Council Resolution on energy efficiency, which are logical steps in a process. Moreover, the Action Plan must be seen in a wider context of Community energy and environmental policy and indeed other relevant Community policies. It is also constructed in such a way as to contribute substantially to the integration of energy and environmental objectives into other policy areas. Overall, this Action Plan is an integrated and coherent combination of policy instruments which reinforce each other and which the Member States are called upon to participate actively in.?

## Energy efficiency: action plan

The committee adopted the report by Anders WIJKMAN (EPP-ED, S) on the Commission communication. The report called for greater efforts to be made to reduce energy consumption. While it welcomed the EU action plan to pursue energy saving through actively involving local and regional authorities, the committee took the view that it was insufficient, since there was no systematic evaluation of previous schemes nor specific targets to be achieved within a given timetable. Furthermore, the committee believed the priority should be transport and that it ought to be possible to reduce energy consumption by some 2.5%. The report also contained a call for a chapter on energy policy to be inserted into the Treaty and urged the Council to adopt legislation on a climate tax and an energy tax with the option of using emissions trading. There was also support for further EU funding to promote energy efficiency and an EU-wide energy management programme to apply to all public authorities in the EU. Support was also forthcoming for sustainable urban development to be based on further developments of public transport. The committee wanted to see tax benefits for fuel efficient cars, consumption indicators in cars, more energy efficient designs of cars and road charging. ?

## Energy efficiency: action plan

In adopting this resolution drafted by Mr Anders WIJKMAN (EPP/ED, S), the Parliament welcomes the Commission's Action Plan on energy efficiency, although it considers it insufficient to meet the goals of the Kyoto Protocol or the needs of European energy security. The House

would prefer the planned legislative programme to deal with the overall energy saving and hence to include measures to reduce the use of energy in general and fossil fuels in particular. Parliament does not share the Commission's view that the target for reducing energy intensity should be 1% per year. Instead it reiterates its earlier opinion that annual reductions in final energy intensity of 2.5% ought to be achievable, provided the political will is there. It calls therefore on the European Council to integrate energy efficiency in the Lisbon process, through the adoption of a target for an annual reduction in the final intensity of 2.5%. The Council is urged to adopt legislation providing for a Europe-wide pollutant-based climate tax which does not result in an increase in the overall tax burden and covers all greenhouse gases, and/or - as an alternative in the longer term - a comprehensive EU emissions trading systems with step by step reduction of emission quotas. The Commission and the Member States are also requested to review national systems of taxation in order to create incentives to investments in energy efficiency. In addition, the Commission is called upon to submit a proposal for a directive to impose more stringent standards on the construction industry, both for new buildings and existing building stock, including heating systems. It has also asked to put forward a new directive to promote energy efficiency in electrical equipment. Moreover, it is urged to 'initiate a broad reflection and concrete actions for social marketing in the field of energy efficiency. The House would also like to see the setting up of a European Energy Programme Agency to ensure consistency and continuity in energy related programmes. The Agency would be responsible for the implementation, follow-up and dissemination of all programmes under SAVE, ALTERNER and ENERGIE part of the 5th RTD Framework programme and for coordinating and implementing the Energy Efficiency Action Plan. Parliament considers that special measures should be taken in order to meet a binding Community-wide target of doubling the use of cogeneration to 18% of EU electricity production by the year 2010. This is expected to bring about an additional reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions. It demands also that as from 2015, 25% of EU electricity production be provided by cogeneration.?