

Procedure file

Basic information	
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	1995/2070(COS)
Small and very small electricity systems in the internal electricity market	Procedure completed
Subject	3.60.03 Gas, electricity, natural gas, biogas

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy		19/07/1995
		PPE FERBER Markus	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy		26/09/1995
		V HAUTALA Heidi	
Council of the European Union			

Key events			
10/05/1995	Non-legislative basic document published	SEC(1995)0685	Summary
14/07/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
06/02/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
06/02/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0026/1996	
29/02/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0096/1996	Summary
29/02/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
18/03/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1995/2070(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	ENER/4/06625

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		SEC(1995)0685	10/05/1995	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0026/1996 OJ C 078 18.03.1996, p. 0002	06/02/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0096/1996 OJ C 078 18.03.1996, p. 0010-0014	29/02/1996	EP	Summary

Small and very small electricity systems in the internal electricity market

The document sets out the Commission's analysis of and conclusions on the specific problems inherent in liberalizing the markets in small and very small electricity systems, as requested by the Council on 29 November 1994. Small electricity systems take the form either of a single system in a Member State or of a system comprising several electricity systems within a Member State. They are either interconnected with other systems or stand alone, as is the case on the islands (Ireland, Crete etc.). The Commission concludes from its analysis that small systems will all be subject to competition and the liberalization of the markets, irrespective of whether they are interconnected or stand alone. The size of these small systems is no justification for granting them special protection against competition and they must therefore be dealt with in the same way as all other electricity systems.?

Small and very small electricity systems in the internal electricity market

For small and very small isolated electricity systems, the motion for a resolution that was adopted recommended energy production that was economic and non-polluting. In this respect, it referred to the promotion of energy from renewable sources, the use of combined heat and power systems and the implementation of new instruments such as integrated resource planning. The report stated that a general opening-up of the electricity sector, as proposed by the Commission, would prevent the implementation of rational energy strategies and environmentally-friendly measures. It thus called on the Commission to create suitable framework conditions for the operators of small and very small electricity systems. The rapporteur emphasised this concept when explaining how the creation of long-term links between clients and energy suppliers was essential for the success of integrated resource planning. Finally, the report highlighted that, where small systems were concerned, a system to prevent abuse should take priority over the introduction of competition for the benefit of a small number of major customers. ?

Small and very small electricity systems in the internal electricity market

In adopting the report by Mr Markus FERBER (EPP), Parliament asks the Commission to ensure that the effective monopoly which is actually necessary for the proper functioning of small isolated electricity systems respects the general economic interest and in particular the rights of consumers. It stresses that measures to prevent abuse must take priority with regard to ensuring competition for a small number of large customers. It emphasizes the importance of small electricity systems for the production of energy from renewable sources and calls on the Commission to draw up a plan of action to protect existing producers of energy from renewable sources and to encourage its further development. Regarding the environment, it calls for the introduction of rational energy consumption measures such as combined heat and power systems and integrated resources planning and calls on the Commission to create suitable framework conditions for such measures.?