



- EYE CATCHER: AIE's Position papers EPBD and EED available soon
- EUROPEAN NEWS [Directive/Project / Events]: AIE's position papers on EPDB and EED available now
- SECTOR RELATED NEWS & AIE ACTIVITIES
- FUTURE EVENTS

01_Eye catcher:

- **AIE's Position papers on EPBD and EED available soon – Primary Energy conversion factor**

On 30 November 2016, the European Commission adopted its Clean Energy for All Package, also called “Winter Package”, including the revised **Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) and Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)**. With the package the Commission intends to accelerate building renovation rates, facilitate access to finance and create jobs in the building sector.

In December and January, the AIE Energy Task Force worked on its draft AIE position paper which should be endorsed in the next coming days. *The AIE warmly welcomes the proposals in the review of the EPBD and highlights the need to speed-up renovation, to have consistency between the roadmaps and the National energy efficiency action plans of each Member State, suggests amongst others improvements regarding the provisions for the charging points for electric vehicles and the time-scale for the implementation, proposes to include a new article on safety checks of the existing electrical systems in residential buildings and proposes its contribution to define the smartness indicator for buildings.*

Simultaneously the AIE has worked with the European stakeholders group on a common explanatory note of what the **primary energy conversion factor (PEF) is**, what the problem/impact of a 2.5 factor is and why the PEF should be lower than 2.5 or 2.0 (latest proposal of the Commission). This message is meant to be delivered to members of the European Parliament and national governments.

Both documents will be available soon.

02_European news [Directives / Projects / Events]

02-01: Emission trading system debate and vote of the European Parliament

The European Parliament's plenary meeting voted on Wednesday 15 February on the revision of the EU Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) for the period after 2020.

The main points:

The vote includes a number of important measures aimed at strengthening the EU ETS, such as: doubling the intake rate of the Market Stability Reserve to 24% (2019-2022), cancelling 800 million allowances from the Reserve in 2021, and addressing the interaction of the ETS with other EU climate and energy policies.

MEPs voted with 379-263 in favor of the proposal, with 57 abstentions, rejecting hereby a more environmentally ambitious proposal for the faster removal of surplus carbon permits from the ETS – sparking criticism from climate campaigners. The vote paves the way for negotiations with the 28 EU countries, which are still discussing their position ahead of an environment ministers’ meeting on February 28.

MEPs decided to keep the Commission’s proposal for reducing the number of emission permits on the market by 2.2 percent each year. The environment committee had a more ambitious proposal wanting a 2.4 percent reduction to battle oversupply and boost prices. It also prevailed in getting Parliament to reject proposals to stop handing out free emission allowances to cement, clinker, lime and a few others that trade little outside the EU.

The version of ETS reform that cleared the Parliament received a mostly warm welcome from industries ranging from non-ferrous metals, to paper and pulp, to aluminum, to chemicals, to — perhaps most conspicuously — cement.

By creating a market for carbon emissions, the ETS was supposed to spur polluters to reduce emissions and switch to cleaner technologies. It’s meant to be the bloc’s flagship tool to cut emissions by at least 40 percent by 2030.

02-02: Solar Trade case (!!!!)



Following the vote of the Member States (18 voted against the Commission, while 5 abstained) on the 26th of January to reject the anti-dumping measures on solar panels and cells imported from China, Taiwan and Malaysia, **an appeal process has begun.**

This is the first appeal under the new trade defense instruments system and as such the process is not well defined. As expected, the Commission brought forward a compromise position recognizing the need to change the original proposal following its rejection by the Member States. This compromise included the following changes from the original draft regulation:

1. The application of the duties would be **reduced from 24 months to 18 months.**
2. This would be applied to **both the anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures.**

The Solar Industry (Solar Power Europe) will continue to call for the end of the measures, as soon as possible and stick to our previously agreed compromise suggestions which had been circulated to the Member States and the European Commission. However, in order to be able to find a fair compromise to the original proposal of the Commission the following has been proposed:

1. **The application period of the anti-dumping measures should be shortened**

The extension of the measures should be reduced to 12-15 months. The Commission has in the past proposed the extension of measures for shorter periods. The reasons for this reduction can be based on a reconsideration of the potential impact of measures on demand for solar in the short/medium term, as recognised by DG Trade in their own proposal.

2. **Strengthen the language of the Proposal to reassure the European solar sector that the termination of the anti-dumping measures will occur**

The revised Proposal should act to limit the possibility for an expiry review. The Commission has taken this approach in past cases. This is justifiable on the basis of the significant changes in the solar market, including the decreasing global significance of the EU solar market (as more than 150 markets for solar now exist), and that the further extension of the measures would not be justifiable on Union interest grounds. It is argued that measures would significantly affect the European downstream and upstream industries due to their impact on demand (as noted by the Commission) in the short/medium term.

3. **The Immediate removal of Measures on Cells**

The current proposal recognises that the European cell production market is 96% captive and thus it would be in the interest of European module manufacturers to have access to market priced cells, to help their competitiveness and support them to build a viable future for module manufacturing in Europe. To do this the trade measures on cells must be terminated.

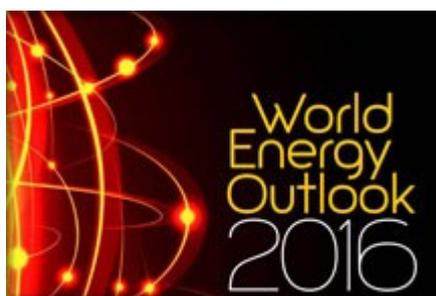
02-03: Work Plan 2016-2019 for eco-design measures

In the Climate Package “Clean Energy for all”, the [Eco-design working plan 2016-2019](#) sets out the European Commission’s priorities, including reviews of existing measures and studies for new measures for other products, including Building Automation and Control Systems.

This document announces energy savings objectives for various types of electronic appliances. For example for lighting products, the European Commission wishes to achieve 50 TWh per year savings in final energy consumption with the **upcoming Single Lighting Regulation** (draft proposal to be adopted in February or March by the European Commission). We are glad to see that the Ecodesign Workplan announces that the European Commission is finalizing a **ENER Lot 37 study about possible Ecodesign requirements for lighting systems**. Therefore, lighting systems can be enhanced not only through the EPBD but also within the Ecodesign framework, with huge benefits for the environment, consumers and the industry as well.

The currently ongoing inter-service consultation will close in either February, March, or April 2017, the text will be published on the Better Regulation website and stakeholders will then have four weeks to react.

02-04: Global energy trends: World energy Outlook report



The AIE recently attended the presentation of the latest **World Energy Outlook**, report edited by the **International Energy Agency (IEA)** on the future trends and perspectives of the energy markets worldwide. Evelyne Schellekens reports on the main conclusions:

1. **Energy security** is and remains a **major concern**.
2. There are **new oil market dynamics** and thus we are entering a period of **greater oil market volatility**.

Oil security in the US has become their top priority, with the major goal to make the US independent of oil imports by increasing their own production! The IEA expects that they may reach their target because their domestic oil production is increasing tremendously. But there is another reason, the efficiency standards for oil in the US for the transport sector is resulting in decreasing the use of oil in this sector and reducing their import, if they will import at all! There will be an oil decrease demand in the US and maybe also in the EU but in other areas of the world, there is a growth demand of oil, such as in India and Southeast Asia (cheapest solution for them).

The oil production in the Middle East reached their highest production since 40 years. Even if we see a stronger penetration of passengers e-vehicles, it will not reduce the world oil demand! The growth of oil is coming from elsewhere: the maritime, freight (trucks in Asia in particular), aviation and petrochemicals sector, because we don't have alternatives. There are no technologies or investment in efficiency standards for these sectors, e.g. trucks in Asia or planes.

3. A major change occurred in the **gas market** = a silent revolution with the shale gas evolution in the US resulting in a 30% rise in LNG. A wave of LNG in Australia and US spurs a second natural gas revolution.
4. Of all the power plants installed in the world last year, more than 50% was **RES** and which is higher than coal, gas, oil and nuclear together. RES is not anymore, a romantic story but has become a very important issue.

RES in a first stage was successful thanks to governmental support but now we have 2 important challenges: RES needs to penetrate the transport and heat sector and these changes resulting in the market design. Cost of RES are reducing (wind by 30%, solar by 80%) but we can't deny the importance of government policies. There are new government policies mainly in the US and China, but RES still needs governmental support.

Stronger policies on solar PV and wind help RES make up 37% of electricity generation in 2040. The RES use today is par in the electricity sector, heat and transport. In 2040 it will be mainly in electricity.

5. The **Paris agreement** is a historic moment which puts the energy sector in the spotlight. It is a diplomatic answer, not solving everything but creating a very important framework. We need however to ensure that it is properly implemented in practice and taken seriously and consciously by the governments. It will be the governments who will have to transform it into real policies and policy actions to shape the future of tomorrow!

02-05: How to fund renewables.

Subsidies for some mature renewable technologies may no longer be necessary after 2020, partly because of lower costs and reforms to the EU's Emissions Trading System. That's according to a new **EU-funded study**, which forecasts the likely **evolution of European electricity markets between 2020 and 2050** and estimates how renewable electricity projects will be able to finance themselves in the period, without the need for public subsidies. However, less mature technologies such as offshore wind would still need subsidies after 2020.

How much cash is needed? Around €25 billion a year for government investment in renewables between 2020 and 2030, the report said.

02-06: EU Buildings need to get smart.

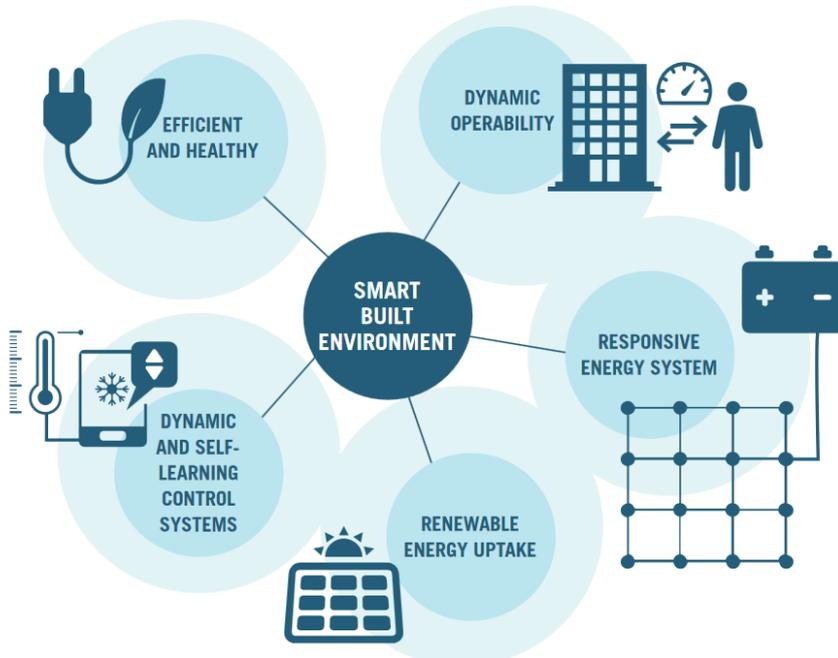
The European building stock and energy system are at the initial stages of becoming smart: moving from a centralised, fossil fuel-based and highly-energy-consuming system towards one that is more efficient, decentralised, consumer-focused and powered by renewable energy.

But there isn't a single EU country that's fully prepared to take advantage of the benefits offered from smart building technologies that, for instance, allow the building to produce, store and/or use its own energy, the Buildings Performance Institute Europe (BPIE) states in a [report](#) published today. The report assessed aspects such as **dynamic operability, energy-system responsiveness, renewable energy uptake as well as dynamic and self-learning control systems.**

Sweden, Finland, Denmark and the Netherlands are at the front of the pack, having implemented policies that will enable this shift. In **Sweden, Finland and Italy**, nearly all consumers are now equipped with [smart energy meters](#). Several other countries have started to roll out smart meters, but progress is slow.

This is where EU legislation could play a role, giving consumers more say on how and when they use energy and increasing the production, self-consumption and storage of renewable energy, it said. The [report](#) presents a series of progressive policies and innovative front-runner projects which prove the economic viability of smart buildings.

Figure 1 - Five pillars of a smart built environment (Source: BPIE own analysis)



In mapping the smart-ready level of the built environment in the 28 EU Member States, 12 essential characteristics were defined. If Europe can ride the wave of the technological revolution, smart buildings will empower the occupants and bring clean energy to all.

> [Download the full report](#) and [press release](#) at BPIE or view the report at [AIE's Digital Library](#)

03_ AIE activities and Sector related news

03-01: AIE activities and networking

- **Safety of electrical installations - report**

More than ever safety of electrical installations in dwellings is a priority as to 'prepare' residential buildings to welcome digital solutions. The existing report made up by the group FEEDS needed a fresh update currently carried out by **Leonardo Energy**. AIE is kept into the loop and regularly requested to give input and feedback.

The report states that:

- In Europe 20 to 30 % of **all domestic fires have an electrical origin.**
- If we do not step up with **additional measures to improve the domestic safety** soon, the issue might become even more urgent in the future.

The **methodology of the report** is based on EU division with example figures of:

- Northwestern EU: Germany, France, UK
- Eastern & Central Europe: Poland
- Southern EU: Spain
- And total EU results

The **creation of a platform with AIE and different stakeholders** such as fire brigades, consumers' associations, control and inspection bodies, copper institute, manufacturer and wholesalers associations, ... etc. is **scheduled in May 2017**.

The **detailed report and its conclusions** are available for AIE members at the AIE secretariat: info@aie.eu

- **AIE position on EPBD, EED and the PEF**

The AIE Energy Task Force worked on a draft AIE position paper in December and January which should be endorsed in the next coming days. The AIE warmly welcomes the proposals in the review of the EPBD and **highlights the need to speed-up renovation**, to have consistency between the roadmaps and the National energy efficiency action plans of each Member State, **suggests improvements** regarding the provisions for the **charging points for electric vehicles** and the time-scale, proposes to include a new article on **safety checks of the existing electrical systems in residential buildings** and proposes its contribution to define the **smartness indicator**.

Simultaneously the AIE has worked with the European stakeholders group on a common explanatory note of what the **primary energy conversion factor** is, what the problem/impact of a 2.5 factor is and **why the PEF should be lower than 2.5 or 2.0** (latest proposal of the Commission). This message is meant to be delivered to the European Parliament and national governments.

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- **EU funded project: Smartel**



The AIE is partner in a project called **SMARTEL**, launched in **September 2016**. The project is about setting up training modules for installers on smart meters and home automation technologies.

The Belgian electro technical training institute **VOLTA** (website in French/Dutch) is **providing the training expertise** on behalf of AIE. **Next meeting of the consortium will be held in Valencia on 6-7 March 2017.**

03-02: Germany invests massively in charging stations for electric vehicles!



The **European Commission** approved on **13 February** a **German scheme for rolling out electric vehicle charging stations across the country, arguing it fills a gap in the market and fits with decarbonization targets!**

Costing **€300 million** over four years, the German program is aimed at installing more high-speed charging points. Any company, individual or local authority can apply for cash from the pool.

“The Commission considers that this measure will **encourage a significant uptake of electric vehicles** and therefore make a major contribution towards meeting the common interest of reducing emissions and improving air quality,” the Commission said.

The financing scheme also requires that electricity for the charging infrastructure come from renewable sources. Under its **Energiewende strategy**, Germany is pushing to replace nuclear and fossil fuels with cleaner energy sources.

“Electric vehicles can provide real benefits to society by reducing harmful emissions and noise pollution. The German support scheme will encourage consumers and businesses to use electric vehicles,” said Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager.

Early financial support will help jump-start investment in the sector, the Commission said. In 2015, a report from the German government’s National Electromobility Platform said that some 5,700 additional fast charging stations would be needed by 2020.

03-03: Technical info: Auxiliary networks and devices

When designing an electrical installation for the home **it makes sense to also consider other networks and electrical devices besides the usual 230V mains** for power sockets and lighting. This is stated in a white paper of Leonardo Energy, one of a series of thematic white papers covering various aspects of electrical installations in houses, flats and residential units.

For example, consider installing wiring for speakers or charging facilities for the electric car. A check is also required as to whether a Wi-Fi data network can be installed without a wired data network and whether structured cabling has been used. The design might also include a few small devices to make life easier and more comfortable for the residents. Finally, in this white paper we look to the near future

by asking if we should store the energy generated by our solar panels for use when the sun isn't shining, and a little further into the future by considering the merits of a separate DC network in the home.

[Download our latest Auxiliary networks and devices](#) (Leonardo Energy)

03-04: Green light for Flemish Energy Cluster for accelerating the energy transition

[source: Energyville and Smart Grids Flanders]

On 16 December, the Flemish Government has agreed to support the **Flemish Energy Cluster**, a broad initiative of the energy, ICT and construction sector that wants to turn Flanders into a Smart Energy Region.

During their climate and energy summit, the Flemish Government has formally engaged itself for the European target to lower the greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 with at least 80 percent compared to 1990. Moreover, the Flemish Government acknowledged the need for a radical energy transition to reach the 2030/2050 climate targets.

By establishing an overarching cluster initiative on smart energy, the transition should be realized through **close cooperation** bringing together different competencies, knowhow and partners. To develop integrated products and services, companies of three sectors – energy, ICT and construction – are joining forces to cooperate.

The Energy Cluster has defined **five focus areas** in which Flanders can excel: energy ports, microgrids, multi-energy systems on district level, energy cloud applications and intelligent renovation.

The Dutch press release can be found on [the Smart Grids Flanders website \(link is external\)](#).

03-05: Role and impact of lighting in other sectors/professions

What has been most striking has been the phenomenal, ever-expanding capability of light to transform all walks of life and professions.

Michelle Ross explored the increasing role of **light in medicine**; developments in LED technology are creating the potential to detect cataracts with lighting. Find out more about this exciting prospect on the medical horizon: <http://bit.ly/2kBYWRW> [LinkedIn Article - login required]

Gordon Routledge has drawn our attention to developments in **street lighting**. The abilities of lighting are improving urban living in Hampshire, as smart lighting detects road surface temperatures, and informs councils when grit is needed. Join the discussion on the importance of street lighting here: <http://bit.ly/2knSZHi> [LinkedIn Article - login required]

03-06: Danish Union of electricians' and TEKNIQ's campaign to stimulate young people to choose for an electrical training

- **Best practice example**

The two organizations representing the trade union and the employers in the electrical sector, revives in coming weeks the film "electrical trade - we think behind the scenes", which could also be seen on the screen last year in Denmark.

To support the effort, an ad campaign on Facebook has been launched in the framework of the annual Danish National Championship organised by Skills Denmark for young skilled students from the Danish vocational schools, an event which took place from 26 to 28 January 2017. The campaign targeted young people throughout the country with messages about the many opportunities that an electrician training opens.

> Watch [the campaign video on You Tube](#)

04_ Future events & meetings <http://www.aie.eu/aie/page/Calendar>

04-01: Kindly save the following dates for AIE internal meetings
[or [Download AIE Calendar](#)]:

NEXT UPCOMING MEETING

24.02.2017 | AIE General Secretaries Committee [GSC] | Brussels

MARCH 2017 / 2018

09.03.2017 | Energy Task Force [ETF] | Brussels

16.03.2017 | Policy Coordination Committee [PCC] | Brussels

MAY 2017

09.05.2017 | AIE General Secretaries Committee [GSC] | Paris

23.05.2017 | Policy Coordination Committee [PCC] | Brussels

04-02: Discover [other European events](#) on the AIE website:

> **14-16.03.2017 | [Energy Storage Europe](#) | Messe Düsseldorf, Germany**

A leading international trade fair for energy storage. At this fair you will find a wide variety of storage technologies, both electrical, thermal, chemical and mechanical. [Energyville](#) will be present to present her research into energy storage.

> **4-6.04.2017 | [Battery Show Europe](#) | Sindelfingen, Stuttgart, Germany *two-track event with the Electric & Hybrid Vehicle Technology Conference Europe***

The Battery Show is the leading advanced battery trade fair showcasing manufacturing solutions along the supply chain including battery materials, manufacturing, equipment, components, testing and recycling, across a range of industries including automotive, electronics, power tools, utilities, telecommunications and defence.

> **4-6.04.2017** | [Electric and Hybrid](#) | Sindelfingen, Stuttgart, Germany – *two-track event with the Battery show Europe*

Electric & Hybrid Vehicle Technology Conference Europe features over 80 expert speakers from automotive OEMs, Tier 1s, academic and research organisations offering experience-based insights into the design and engineering of a variety of hybrid and electric architectures including high voltage and 48V systems.

> **21-23.09.2017** | **JOINT AIE-GCP INSTALLERS ASSEMBLY** | Vienna, Austria –

[Download Press Release AIE Council of Delegates 2016 in Oslo](#)

> **25-29.09.2017** | [EU PVSEC 2017](#) | RAI Convention Center, Amsterdam

[EU PVSEC 2017](#), the 33rd edition of the European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition takes place in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, from 25 to 29 September 2017 at RAI Convention and Exhibition Centre (Conference: 25 to 29 September 2017, Exhibition: 25 to 28 September 2017).

> **3-5.10.2017** | [EUROPEAN UTILITY WEEK 2017](#) | RAI Convention Center, Amsterdam

European Utility Week is the premier business, innovation and information platform connecting the smart utility community, allowing you to meet with experts from utilities, network operators, vendors, consultants, startups and system integrators covering the entire smart energy value chain.

05_ Publications – [check new AIE and related publications at our library on ISSUU](#) or direct links to electrical sector magazines online



AIE members and other related organisations from the electrical value chain are invited to inform us on interesting articles, brochures, scientific reports that can be added to our AIE online ISSUU Library!

05-01 Articles that can inspire

> **Australian magazine NECA/[Electrical Connection autumn 2017](#)**

Home and Building automation

1. Cover story: [Who's the boss?](#) | p20-25

Source > Electrical Connection – autumn 2017

Paul Skelton reports on Home and Building Automation being a big player today and a very real part of the electrical industry of tomorrow. (page 20-25)

Vocational Training

2. [The great apprenticeship shake-up](#) | p32-34

The National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA) commenced a project that would trial new methods of delivering electrical apprenticeships, among other things, across the country.

Lighting

3. [LED by Efficiency](#) | p 38-43

There is much to be gained from using DC rather than AC as primary input for LEDS. Phil KREVELD explains the technicalities.

> **Press Release: "United we stand, divided we fall": EU President Donald Tusk shares his reflection in a letter to the 27 EU heads of state or government on the future of the EU.**

He reflects on the three threats to Europe related to - a first external one – the new geopolitical situation in the world and around Europe. Secondly, the rise of anti-EU, nationalist, increasingly xenophobic sentiment within the EU itself, where national egoism is also becoming an attractive alternative to integration. A third threat is the state of mind of the pro-European elites who have a decline of faith in political integration, submission to populist arguments and in doubt of the fundamental values of liberal democracy...

... "but the EU has demographic and economic potential, which makes it a partner equal to the largest powers. **For this reason, the most important signal is that of readiness of the 27 to be united. A signal that we not only must, but want to be united.**"

It must be made crystal clear that the disintegration of the European Union will not lead to the restoration of some mythical, full sovereignty of its member states, but to their real and factual dependence on the great superpowers: the United States, Russia and China. Only together can we be fully independent." ...

> You can read/download the [full press release here](#).

European Association of Electrical Contractors

"ELECTRICITY SURROUNDS US – TOUCHES EVERY ONE OF US, EVERY DAY, EVERYWHERE. Who we are: The AIE – the European Association of electrical contracting companies - represents through its 15 national member associations about 125,500 specialist contracting companies employing about 1,200,000 workers in the EU-countries and beyond. The AIE represents companies from all sizes, the big majors and a majority of small and medium size enterprises [SME]. AIE member companies have an in-depth knowledge and high-quality expert skills to carry out all kind of electrical engineering and infrastructure works [high, medium and low voltage]. The overall turnover of the sector is approximately 137 billion Euros. Monitoring the EU agenda/Directives relevant for the electrical sector, the AIE points out the key strategies and main priorities for the modern electrical contractor. With the increasing complexity of technical installations, the private consumer and house owners are becoming more and more dependent on the knowledge and creativity of the electrical contractor. He is an expert adviser who is able to explain to the client the possibilities and advantages of new technology in a technical and environmental way. Kindly visit our website: www.aie.eu or contact us at info@aie.eu.