Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

2003/0297(COD) - 26/04/2005

The committee adopted the report by Anne LAPERROUZE(ALDE, FR) broadly approving the proposal under the 1st reading of the codecision procedure, subject to a number of amendments aimed mainly at updating and rearranging the lists of priority projects within the Trans-European Energy Networks and clarifying the role of the European Coordinator.

MEPs sought to simplify the organisation of the annexes by deleting **Annex IV** (projects of European Interest) and combining it instead with **Annex I** (priority projects on the priority axes). The new Annex I was entitled "Priority project axes, including sites of projects of European interest, as defined in Articles 7 and 8".

In addition they updated the list of projects in the three annexes, in the light of proceedings in the Council (N.B. the update has been agreed by both the Commission and the Member States).

The committee also added a new criterion for priority projects in **Article 7**: "they shall result in an increase in the use of renewable energies, energy efficiency services or cogeneration".

Lastly, MEPs specified that a European Coordinator to act on the Commission's behalf would be appointed only "where projects pose implementation difficulties". Moreover, the level of coordination should be proportionate to the costs of the project to avoid unnecessary administrative burdens.