Basic information

1994/0009(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Decision	Procedure completed
Trans-European energy networks: guidelines Repealed by 2001/0311(COD) Amended by 1996/0203(COD) Amended by 1998/0284(COD) **Subject** 3.60.06 Trans-European energy networks	

Key players

European Parliament

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy	ADAM Gordon J. (PSE)	18/07/1994

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Agriculture and Fisheries	1908	1996-03-19
Culture	1884	1995-11-20
Energy	1921	1996-05-07
Energy	1894	1995-12-20
Energy	1807	1994-11-29
Social Affairs	1862	1995-06-29

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
19/01/1994	Legislative proposal published	COM(1993)0685	Summary
23/02/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
29/11/1994	Debate in Council		
14/03/1995	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
14/03/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A4-0046/1995	
17/05/1995	Debate in Parliament		Summary
29/05/1995	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0226	Summary
29/06/1995	Council position published	07784/2/1995	Summary

14/07/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
27/09/1995	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
27/09/1995	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0220/1995	
25/10/1995	Debate in Parliament		Summary
20/11/1995	Parliament's amendments rejected by Council		Summary
20/12/1995	Debate in Council		Summary
07/02/1996	Formal meeting of Conciliation Committee		
27/03/1996	Final decision by Conciliation Committee		Summary
04/04/1996	Joint text approved by Conciliation Committee co-chairs	3608/1996	
07/05/1996	Report tabled for plenary, 3rd reading	A4-0153/1996	
07/05/1996	Decision by Council, 3rd reading		Summary
21/05/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
05/06/1996	Final act signed		
05/06/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
29/06/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1994/0009(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Amendments and repeals	Repealed by 2001/0311(COD) Amended by 1996/0203(COD) Amended by 1998/0284(COD)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 170 EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 129D-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CODE/4/07302

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0046/1995 OJ C 109 01.05.1995, p. 0004	14/03/1995	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0237/1995 OJ C 151 19.06.1995, p. 0171-0228	18/05/1995	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A4-0220/1995 OJ C 287 30.10.1995, p. 0005	27/09/1995	

Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T4-0512/1995 OJ C 308 20.11.1995, p. 0097-0113	26/10/1995	Summary
Report tabled for plenary by Parliament delegation to Conciliation Committee, 3rd reading		A4-0153/1996 OJ C 166 10.06.1996, p. 0005	07/05/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, 3rd reading		T4-0225/1996 OJ C 166 10.06.1996, p. 0015-0022	21/05/1996	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	07784/2/1995 OJ C 216 21.08.1995, p. 0031	29/06/1995	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1993)0685	19/01/1994	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1995)0226	29/05/1995	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1995)1127	10/07/1995	Summary
Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading	COM(1995)0577	23/11/1995	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2001)0775 OJ C 151 25.06.2002, p. 0207 E	20/12/2001	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0566/1994 OJ C 195 18.07.1994, p. 0033	27/04/1994	Summary
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0046/1994 OJ C 217 06.08.1994, p. 0026	17/05/1994	Summary
CSL/EP	Joint text approved by Conciliation Committee co-chairs	3608/1996	04/04/1996	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 1996/1254
OJ L 161 29.06.1996, p. 0147 Summary

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 20/12/2001

This documents comprises of the report from the Commission on the implementation of the guidelines for Trans-European Energy Networks in the period 1996-2001. This report is drawn up in accordance with Article 10 of Decision 1254/96/EC laying down a series of guidelines relating to the trans-European networks in the energy sector and Article 5 of Council Decision 391/96/EC determining a set of actions with a view to establishing a more favourable context for the development of the Trans-European networks in the energy sector. The object of this report is to analyse the implementation of these two decisions in light of the objectives set for the TEN by Article 154 of the Treaty establishing the European Community. The implementation of the TEN-Energy Guidelines during the period 1996-2001 allowed: - the identification of 90 projects of common interest, out of which: 24 entered into operation during this same period; 12 are currently under construction; 22 are in the process of obtaining administrative permits; and 32 projects are at the study stage; - the granting from the TEN-Energy budget line during the period 1995-2001 of financial aid to studies and exceptionally, in two cases, to the investment phase, for a total value of EUR 123 million shared among the 53 projects of common interest, as well as the supporting of projects of common interest by other Community financial instruments through aid from the ERDF and loans from the EIB; - other actions to encourage the carrying-out of TEN-Energy projects: on authorisation procedures (Recommendation to the Member States), general co-ordination between the various public and private actors, organisation of two specific conferences and the taking into account of the external dimension of the development of the networks (30 projects of common interest having sections in third countries). According to the experience on the implementation of the present guidelines, the need for identifying new energy network projects and the implementation of the internal market for electricity and natural gas, the main topics envisaged for the revision of the TEN-Energy Guidelines are: - the introduction of a list of priority projects of European interest; - the redefinition of TEN Energy priorities highlighting the support for the liberalisation of energy markets; the reinforcement of security of supply; the integration of energy coming from renewable sources; the enlargement of the European Union; and the consideration of peripheral and ultraperipheral regions; - a more general definition of projects of common interest and a less heavy mechanism for updating the detailed list of projects.

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 27/04/1994

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 23/11/1995 - Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading

The Commission accepted two amendments adopted by the EP at second reading and amended its proposal accordingly. The first amendment introduced a new recital clarifying the criteria used to determine the optimum location and development of the projects. The second amendment aimed to complete the description of the project on the interconnection of electricity in the area surrounding the Baltic. The Commission rejected the other amendments.

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 21/05/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 3rd reading

Adopting the report by Mr Gordon ADAM (PSE, UK), Parliament approved at third reading the joint text for an EP/Council decision laying down a series of guidelines for trans-European energy networks. This conciliation procedure had not begun very auspiciously since the positions of the two institutions were rather far apart. The main difficulty lay in their differing views as to how the codecision procedure should be applied. Parliament and the Council recognized that it was necessary to identify projects of common interest by means of a sufficiently precise description. Should the list of projects be extended or shortened, Article 129 D would apply (European Parliament/Council codecision procedure). Furthermore, any amendment that altered the description of a project as it appeared in the Annex would be adopted under the codecision procedure. Parliament and Council agreed on a reformulated list of projects. The Commission was instructed to draw up and keep up to date the specifications which did not affect the trans-European dimension. These specifications did not appear in the Annex. The Commission would be assisted in this task by a committee (comitology procedure). The competent Commissioner had undertaken to come before Parliament and to defend his proposals if they gave rise to disagreement on the part of Parliament over procedure (application of the codecision procedure or application of comitology). The Council, for its part, undertook to consider developing the natural gas network in the Nordic countries (Nordic/Baltic gas networks) once those Member States had submitted fully developed projects.

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 29/05/1995 - Modified legislative proposal

Of the 16 amendments adopted by the European Parliament, the Commission's amended proposal took over five in full and seven in part. These amendments related to the following points: - the need to encourage the production, distribution and rational use of energy resources as well as the need to reduce the cost of energy for individuals and businesses; - the need to establish an overall energy strategy to achieve the objectives of the European Union, and particularly the liberalisation of the energy market; - the interconnection of networks with third countries which were signatories to the European Energy Charter should take place in accordance with that treaty; - the links connecting the gas and electricity networks should be as short as possible and optimally sited; - when assessing projects of common interest, consideration should be given to economic, social and technical factors; - Member States were required to comply with Community law and international conventions on the environment when taking measures to facilitate the completion of projects of common interest and to minimise delays. However, the Commission did not take over the amendments aimed at: - establishing an advisory committee (type I) for the implementation of these measures, instead of the management committee proposed by the Commission; - adding a new electricity project "d14: Baltic ring" to the annex; - adding the Italian peninsula to project e3 in the annex (gas pipeline to Corsica and Sardinia); - including Finland and the Baltic countries in project h3 in the annex (connecting Norway, Denmark and Sweden to the SCANPIPE gas pipeline).

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 17/05/1994

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 20/12/1995

The Council noted the progress of the work, under the codecision procedure with the European Parliament, on the proposal for a decision laying down a series of guidelines on trans-European energy networks. On 20 November 1995, the Council had noted that it was unable to accept all the amendments proposed by the European Parliament. Contacts have since taken place between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission with a view to preparing for the Conciliation Committee meeting.

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 19/01/1994 - Legislative proposal

The Commission proposal established the Community objectives, the priorities for the period between 1994 and the year 2000 and the main thrust of planned Community action designed to stimulate the development of trans-European energy networks. Community guidance, by promoting the development, interconnection and interoperability of these networks, as well as access to them, would help to achieve the following objectives: - make the energy supply to the Community more secure, - pave the way for the effective operation of the single market, and - help to open up disadvantaged, remote and island regions. In order to achieve these objectives, the Commission proposed the establishment of the following priorities: - the electricity grid: links between isolated regions, especially the less wealthy regions; connections between Member States and interconnections with non-Member States in Europe and with the Mediterranean countries; - the natural-gas supply network: introduction of natural gas into new regions; connection of isolated networks to the trans-European networks; increase in transport, reception and storage capacities. The main aims of the proposed action were: - to identify projects of common interest, and - to create a more favourable climate for the implementation of trans-European energy-network programmes by taking initiatives of a technical, administrative, judicial and financial nature.

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 07/05/1996

Following the agreement on a joint text that was reached by the Conciliation Committee on 27 March 1996, the Council adopted the Decision laying down a series of guidelines for trans-European energy networks. As this had been achieved through the codecision procedure, the European Parliament for its part was still to confirm the joint text; the decision would then be definitively adopted.

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 10/07/1995

The Commission accepted the common position with the exception of the changes to comitology preferring since it preferred a type IIa committee.

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 20/11/1995

The Council noted that it was unable to accept all of Parliament’s amendments to the proposal for a decision laying down a series of guidelines on trans--European energy networks and decided to convene the Conciliation Committee on this matter in accordance with Article 189b of the Treaty.

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 19/03/1996

The Council decided to ask the European Parliament for its agreement, in accordance with the codecision provisions of the Treaty, to a two-week extension of the deadline set for the two institutions to agree on a joint text.

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 29/06/1995 - Council position

The Council's common position largely followed the approach of the Commission and Parliament on the basis of the amended proposal. The main amendments incorporated in the common position related to the following points: - consultation of the EP on the implementing measures to be submitted to the committee; - the adoption of an overall energy strategy to respond to the objectives of the European Union, including with respect to the liberalisation of the energy market; - the need to encourage the production, distribution and rational use of energy resources as well as the need to reduce the cost of energy for individuals and businesses; - the interconnection of networks with third countries: this should take place in accordance with the European Energy Charter Treaty; - the conditions for eligibility for projects: in the context of assessing projects of common interest, the objectives and priorities defined in the guidelines should be respected and consideration given to economic, social and technical factors; - Member States were required to comply with Community law and international conventions on the environment when taking measures to facilitate the completion of projects of common interest and to minimise delays. The Council also introduced new provisions concerning: - the use of private capital and the need to avoid distortions of competition; - taking account of the effects of competition and the prospects of private financing or financing by the economic operators concerned; - the Council decision would be without prejudice to any financial commitment by a Member State or the Community; - removal of projects nearing completion and premature projects from the list of projects of common interest annexed to the decision; - comitology: decision in favour of a type IIIa committee (regulatory committee).

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 18/05/1995 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Gordon Adam, the European Parliament approved the Commission proposal. In its amendments, the EP: - stressed that the development of energy networks should help to reduce the cost of energy supply and promote growth, competitiveness and employment; - highlighted that the interconnection of electricity and natural gas networks with third countries should take place in accordance with the European Energy Charter Treaty; - requested that the Commission be assisted by an advisory committee composed of representatives of the Member States and chaired by the representative of the Commission, and called on the Commission to take the utmost account of the opinion delivered by the committee and any observations of the EP; - called for the EP to be consulted on any revision of the priority projects listed in the annex. With regard to the projects, the EP: - added "Baltic ring": Germany, Poland, Russia (Kaliningrad enclave), Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Sweden and Finland; - added "Italian peninsula" to the Corsican and Sardinian projects; - added Finland and the Baltic countries to the projects concerning Norway, Denmark and Sweden (joint Nordic/Baltic gas grid)

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 26/10/1995 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

In adopting the recommendation for second reading by Mr ADAM (PSE, UK), the European Parliament approved the Council's common position with the following amendments: - Parliament felt that in the construction of links currently missing from the trans-European energy networks, these links should be as short as possible and optimally sited, taking economic factors into account; - with regard to comitology, the European Parliament called for an advisory committee and reminded the Commission that it was obliged to inform Parliament at the same time as the committee; - it stated that Parliament should be consulted on the basis of the first and second paragraphs of Article 129d of the Treaty should the list of priority projects be updated; - finally, it proposed changes with regard to the electricity networks surrounding the Baltic (adding Russia (Baltic regions) and Belarus), and the Baltic and Nordic gas distribution network (for Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and the Baltic states).

Trans-European energy networks: guidelines

1994/0009(COD) - 05/06/1996 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: to define the nature and scope of Community action in laying down guidelines for trans-European energy networks. COMMUNITY MEASURE: European Parliament and Council Decision 1254/96 laying down a series of guidelines on trans-European energy networks. SUBSTANCE: the decision lays down the Community objectives, priorities from now to the year 2000 and the main lines of action with a view to stimulating the development of the trans-European energy networks. * Community action promotes the development, interconnection and interoperability of the trans-European energy networks, and access to these networks with a view to: - reinforcing the security of the Community's energy supply; - enabling the single market actually to be implemented; - facilitating improved access for less-favoured, peripheral and island regions. * In order to achieve these objectives, the priorities are as follows: - Electricity networks: linking isolated networks to the interconnected European networks; interconnections between Member States; interconnection with European third countries and the Mediterranean countries; - Natural gas networks: introduction of natural gas in new regions; linking isolated networks to trans-European networks; increasing transport, reception and storage capacities and diversifying sources and transport routes for natural gas. * The main lines of action are: - identification of projects of common interest; - establishing a more

favourable context for carrying out trans-European energy network projects through technical, administrative, legal and financial measures. * Any common-interest project must have the potential for economic viability. Assessment of economic viability must take account of all the costs and benefits linked to environmental aspects, security of supply and the contribution that can be made to economic and social cohesion. When projects are considered, effects on competition and prospects of private or business funding must be borne in mind. * An indicative list of common-interest projects in the area of trans-European networks is annexed to the decision. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 02/07/1996.