Basic information

1996/0218(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Energy: organisation of cooperation around agreed Community objectives **Subject** 3.60.15 Cooperation and agreements for energy	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy	STOCKMANN Ulrich (PSE)	19/11/1996

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy	WATSON Sir Graham (ELDR)	23/01/1997
JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights	GEBHARDT Evelyne (PSE)	19/12/1996
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Energy	2009	1997-05-27
Energy	1975	1996-12-03

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
04/10/1996	Legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0431	Summary
03/12/1996	Debate in Council		
30/01/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
16/04/1997	Vote in committee		Summary
16/04/1997	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0142/1997	
			Summary

15/05/1997	Debate in Parliament		
27/05/1997	Debate in Council		
26/08/1997	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0436	Summary
09/06/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
09/01/2004	Additional information		Summary

Technical information

Procedure reference	1996/0218(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 157
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	ENER/4/08626

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0142/1997 OJ C 150 19.05.1997, p. 0003	16/04/1997	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0257/1997 OJ C 167 02.06.1997, p. 0225-0230	16/05/1997	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1996)0431 OJ C 027 28.01.1997, p. 0009	04/10/1996	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1997)0436 OJ C 305 07.10.1997, p. 0007	26/08/1997	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0475/1997 OJ C 206 07.07.1997, p. 0123	23/04/1997	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Energy: organisation of cooperation around agreed Community objectives

1996/0218(CNS) - 26/08/1997 - Modified legislative proposal

The amended proposal incorporates, in part or in full, the 8 amendments adopted by the European Parliament at first reading. The main changes to the initial proposal relate to the following points: - the accent will be placed on increasing efficiency, on renewable sources of energy and, where nuclear technologies are concerned, on techniques for final storage; - the framework for energy cooperation set up by the decision will also help to prevent excess capacity, guarantee initiatives (including national initiatives), promote and develop sustainable techniques and reduce energy consumption; - the Commission will implement actions for the rapid introduction of a taxation or incentive system commensurate with sustainable energy policy objectives; - in line with the principle of subsidiarity, the Commission will propose specific Community actions and/or programmes which will enable the agreed energy policy targets to be attained; - the Commission will draw up a report at least every two years containing a comparative overview of progress made, if any, by the Member States in attaining the agreed targets. It should be noted that the Commission rejected the amendments relating to: - the foundation of a European climate agency; - environmental protection, which it considered was the primary objective to be pursued; - a standardized method of calculating how external costs are to be internalized; - the introduction of an energy excise duty; - the inclusion of a new chapter in the Treaty on European Union devoted to energy, requiring commitments to sustainability, energy efficiency, conservation of resources and preservation of the environment (this amendment no longer applies now that the results of the intergovernmental conference in Amsterdam are available).

Energy: organisation of cooperation around agreed Community objectives

1996/0218(CNS) - 23/04/1997 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The Committee welcomed the Commission’s initiative. In its specific comments, the Committee took account of the framework for cooperation and the objectives pursued by the proposal. In this respect, the Committee believed that, if the compatibility of national energy policies with the agreed energy objectives was to be verified, there would, in the future, need to be a clearer and more precise definition of how this cooperation, exchange of information and joint examination of national energy policies would be established and maintained. It backed the aim of increased transparency of action in the energy sector through the regular publication of a report on energy policy developments at Community and Member State level in relation to the agreed objectives. This report would serve as a basis for evaluation and adjustment of the energy objectives. The lack of a common energy policy or greater cooperation in the energy sector resulted in duplication of Community and national measures. Since national energy policies and Community energy initiatives were complementary, they should be viewed as a whole as their effectiveness depended on their coordination with each other. The Committee therefore believed that, in addition to defining Community energy objectives, their practical implementation was just as crucial, as was the definition of the instruments required as a result.

Energy: organisation of cooperation around agreed Community objectives

1996/0218(CNS) - 16/05/1997 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

By adopting the report by Mr Ulrich STOCKMANN (PSE, D), the European Parliament rejected the change of legal basis proposed by its Committee on Research, Technological Development and Energy. The amendments made to the proposal place the accent on increasing efficiency, on renewable energy sources and, where nuclear technologies are concerned, on safe techniques for final storage. The report also emphasizes the importance of integrated resource planning and calls for the development and rapid introduction of a taxation or incentive system commensurate with sustainable energy policy objectives. It similarly hopes for the harmonization of fiscal instruments relating to the environment. Parliament finally calls for the inclusion in the EU Treaty of a chapter devoted to energy, requiring commitments to energy efficiency, conservation of resources and preservation of the environment.

Energy: organisation of cooperation around agreed Community objectives

1996/0218(CNS) - 04/10/1996 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: the aim of the proposed decision is to establish an energy cooperation framework conceived as a tool for achieving the agreed objectives and ensuring coherence between the various policies of the Member States and the EC. SUBSTANCE: the Commission proposes the establishment of a framework for energy cooperation between the Community and the Member States around agreed Community energy objectives (set out in the annex), which, while constituting specific measures in support of actions taken in the Member States, will contribute to the achievement of the following objectives: - to achieve a high level of competitiveness in the Community; - to increase security of supply; - to protect the environment; - to promote the rational and efficient use of energy resources and to promote new and renewable energy; - to promote international energy cooperation and liberalization; - to ensure transparency of national and Community energy policy actions; - to develop means of analysing and monitoring the energy market. In order to contribute to the achievement of the common objectives, the Community will use the wide range of instruments in the energy sector that are available to it, notably: RTD and the dissemination of new technologies; harmonization of the fiscal structure; application of the competition rules; standardization; monitoring of the internal market; instruments for cooperation with third countries; development of cost-effective instruments.