## Basic information

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|---|---|
| **2005/2210(INI)**<br>INI - Own-initiative procedure | Procedure completed |
| Energy efficiency or doing more with less. Green Paper<br>**Subject**<br>3.60.08 Energy efficiency | |

## Key players

### European Parliament

| Committee responsible | Rapporteur | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| ITRE Industry, Research and Energy | VIDAL-QUADRAS Alejo (PPE-DE) | 14/07/2005 |

| Committee for opinion | Rapporteur for opinion | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| DEVE Development | The committee decided not to give an opinion. | |
| INTA International Trade | The committee decided not to give an opinion. | |
| ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs | FERREIRA Elisa (PSE) | 15/11/2005 |
| ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety | OLAJOS Péter (PPE-DE) | 14/12/2005 |
| IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection | The committee decided not to give an opinion. | |
| TRAN Transport and Tourism | VINCENZI Marta (PSE) | 30/08/2005 |
| REGI Regional Development | The committee decided not to give an opinion. | |

### Council of the European Union

| Council configuration | Meetings | Date |
|---|---|---|
| Transport, Telecommunications and Energy | 2735 | 2006-06-08 |
| Transport, Telecommunications and Energy | 2717 | 2006-03-14 |

| European Commission | Commission DG | Commissioner |
|---|---|---|
| | Energy and Transport | |

## Key events

| Date | Event | Reference | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 22/06/2005 | Non-legislative basic document published | COM(2005)0265 | Summary |
| 17/11/2005 | Committee referral announced in Parliament | | |
| 14/03/2006 | Debate in Council | | Summary |
| 25/04/2006 | Vote in committee | | Summary |
| 03/05/2006 | Committee report tabled for plenary | A6-0160/2006 | |
| 31/05/2006 | Debate in Parliament | | |
| 01/06/2006 | Decision by Parliament | T6-0243/2006 | Summary |
| 01/06/2006 | Results of vote in Parliament | | |
| 01/06/2006 | End of procedure in Parliament | | |
| 08/06/2006 | Debate in Council | | |

## Technical information

| | |
|---|---|
| **Procedure reference** | 2005/2210(INI) |
| **Procedure type** | INI - Own-initiative procedure |
| **Procedure subtype** | Strategic initiative |
| **Legal basis** | Rules of Procedure EP 55 |
| **Stage reached in procedure** | Procedure completed |
| **Committee dossier** | ITRE/6/29638 |

## Documentation gateway

**European Parliament**

| Document type | Committee | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Committee draft report | | PE370.203 | 27/02/2006 | |
| Committee opinion | ENVI | PE367.883 | 23/03/2006 | |
| Committee opinion | TRAN | PE367.811 | 24/03/2006 | |
| Amendments tabled in committee | | PE371.838 | 28/03/2006 | |
| Committee opinion | ECON | PE370.186 | 19/04/2006 | |
| Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading | | A6-0160/2006 | 03/05/2006 | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| Text adopted by Parliament, single reading | | T6-0243/2006 | 01/06/2006 | Summary |

**European Commission**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Non-legislative basic document | COM(2005)0265 | 22/06/2005 | Summary |

**Other institutions and bodies**

| Institution/body | Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| EESC | Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report | CES0242/2006 | 14/02/2006 | |

# Energy efficiency or doing more with less. Green Paper

2005/2210(INI) - 14/03/2006

The Council held a policy debate on the Commission's Green Paper on “a European Strategy for

Sustainable, Competitive and Secure Energy”.

At the end of the debate the EU Energy ministers confirmed that a New Energy Policy for Europe is needed.

Regarding environmental sustainability, Member States underlined:

- confirming the EU leadership in Energy efficiency by presenting an ambitious but realistic Action Plan on Energy Efficiency, with a view to exploiting fully the potential for 20% energy saving by 2020;
- confirming the EU leading role in renewables by developing a long term strategy for the effective promotion of renewables (Road Map), and implementing the Biomass Action Plan, considering also long term goals;
- completing the review of the EU CO2 Emissions Trading Scheme as an instrument to achieve climate change objectives in a cost-effective manner;
- ensuring adequate support from RD & D national and Community instruments to alternative and renewable energies with a view to increase their part in the energy mix of the European Union;
- assessment of the potential of the various sectors with respect to the global climate protection goal.

Regarding security of supply, Member States underlined:

- Europe should speak with a common voice in support of energy policy objectives when engaging third countries;
- the development of energy dialogues between the EU and third countries, as regards producer as well as consumer countries;
- the participation of our neighbouring countries in the European Internal Market, for example through an extension of the Energy Community;
- development of an authentic and sustainable energy partnership with Russia;
- intensified diversification of energy sources and with respect to supplier countries and transport routes;
- ensuring common operational approaches to address crisis situations and to reinforce solidarity;
- development of proposals on the physical security of networks.

Regarding competitiveness the following issues were mentioned:

- ensuring full, effective and transparent implementation of internal market legislation, including as a prerequisite for the stimulation of growth in Europe;
- accelerating the development of regional energy markets within the EU and their integration into the EU internal market by adequate interconnection;
- fostering the coherent development of infrastructure, from storage to cross border interconnections, and development of specific priorities for infrastructure. Strengthening of and coordination between Member States' energy regulators have also been mentioned;
- enhancing transparency in the markets, chiefly in the gas markets, e.g. through the establishment of a European energy observatory.

The President stated that this has been only the first step in the debate and that he was looking forward to summing up the discussion at the upcoming Council meeting in June.

# Energy efficiency or doing more with less. Green Paper

2005/2210(INI) - 01/06/2006 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report by Alejo **VIDAL-QUADRAS ROCA** (EPP-ED, ES) in response to the Commission's Green Paper on energy efficiency. (Please see the document of 25/04/2006.)

# Energy efficiency or doing more with less. Green Paper

2005/2210(INI) - 22/06/2005 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE: The presentation of a Commission Green Paper to open a wide-ranging discussion on how to realise energy savings in the EU – “Doing More with Less”.

CONTENT: There are a number of advantages associated with energy efficiency drives, the most obvious being cash savings. According to numerous studies the EU could save at least 20% of its present energy consumption in a cost effective manner – equivalent to EUR 60 billion per year, or the present combined energy consumption of Germany and Finland. On a micro level EU households could save between EUR 200 to EUR 1000 per year. This is not to forget the considerable advantages energy efficiency has on levels of employment across the EU. Compared to other developed nations, the EU is a world leader in offering both new energy equipment and energy services. For example, China presently uses more than five times as much energy as the EU to produce one unit of GDP, the USA approximately 50% more. Some studies indicate that the EU could generate directly and indirectly one million jobs in the energy efficiency sector. Thus, not only would improved energy efficiency drives save the EU economy a considerable amount of money, it could also make a major contribution to EU competitiveness and employment – key objectives of the Lisbon agenda. The other advantages gained by focusing on energy efficiency relate to the Kyoto Protocol and the EU’s security of energy supplies. Concerning the first, the EU is committed to meeting its Kyoto targets and energy savings is without a doubt the quickest, most effective and most cost-effective manner for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. As far as the second is concerned, the Green Paper notes that by 2030, on the basis of present trends, the EU will be 90% dependant on imports for its requirements of oil and 80% dependant regarding gas. Energy efficiency is one of the key methods to deal with this challenge.

Clearly, the need to address energy efficiency is one of the priorities of the EU in the coming years. The Green Paper therefore seeks to identify the bottlenecks presently preventing cost-effective efficiency from being captured. The kind of bottlenecks identified includes the current lack of appropriate incentives, lack of information and a lack of available financing mechanisms. The Green Paper seeks to identify options on how these bottlenecks can be overcome, suggesting a number of key actions that might be taken. The kind of actions envisioned include, *inter alia*, the establishment of national “Annual Energy Efficiency Action Plans”, targeted publicity campaigns on energy efficiency, improved taxation efforts, better targeting of state aid, the use of public procurement to “kick-start” new energy efficient technologies and the use of the CARS 21 initiative to speed up the development of a new generation of fuel efficient cars. These examples are accompanied by 25 questions, which the Commission addresses to interested stake-holders. The questions posed are wide-ranging and comprehensive but they are not exhaustive. Nor are they proposals – they are ideas for discussion. Following the publication of the Paper, the Commission will undertake an intensive public consultation to last until the end of 2005.

To conclude, the Commission states that the Green Paper is a starting point from which to launch a debate and to prompt new ideas, whether these come from industry, public authorities, consumer groups or indeed consumers. By December 2005, the Commission will prepare a first analysis of the results of the public debate, which will be presented to the Council of Ministers. The Report will be accompanied by an action plan containing proposals for practical action in the course of 2006.