



Enabling consumers in the EU energy efficiency policy framework

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5 Guiding Dimensions of the Energy Union

- Secure supplies
- Internal energy market
- **Energy efficiency**
- Emissions reduction
- Research & Innovation
- *„The goal of a resilient Energy Union with an ambitious climate policy at its core is to give EU consumers - households and businesses - secure, sustainable, competitive and affordable energy.“*



"To reach our goal, we have to move away from an economy driven by fossil fuels, an economy where energy is based on a centralised, supply-side approach and which relies on old technologies and outdated business models. We have to empower consumers through providing them with information, choice and through creating flexibility to manage demand as well as supply."

Ecodesign & Energy labelling of products



Right to be informed about energy performance of energy-using products

Right to market protection against products with extremely poor energy performance

Directive 2009/125/EC and Directive 2010/30/EU.

Specific implementing/delegated regulations for each product category.

Eco-design requires a minimum level of efficiency for new products. Should also address other environmental impacts, if significant.

Energy label allows consumers to choose more efficient products (under EED buying products with highest classes is a requirement for public sector)



Energy Performance in Buildings Directive



Key elements for consumers:

- Mandatory Energy Performance Certificates when renting or buying;
- Minimum energy performance requirements for
 - New buildings,
 - Buildings undergoing major renovation
 - Building elements;
- Mandatory inspection of heating and cooling systems over certain size;
- Independent experts and quality control;
- Introduction of nearly Zero-Energy Buildings;





Many energy efficiency measures often require making choices and tailoring solutions for vulnerable consumers

- Article 5: renovation of public buildings (requirement to empower local public bodies to renovate buildings includes social bodies)
- Article 6: public procurement (link to Energy Labelling)
- Article 7: energy efficiency obligations (or alternatives like EE Fund) – recommended prioritising vulnerable consumers
- Article 8: energy audits and energy management systems
- Articles 9-11: individual metering and billing
- Article 13: awareness-raising campaigns to households
- Article 14: energy efficiency in heating and cooling
- Article 15: grids and demand response issues
- Article 19: solving split incentives between owner/tenant

Protection of vulnerable energy consumers



EU legislation requires but is not prescriptive about methods to protect/empower vulnerable consumers – it is the job of the national authorities/ legislators



Main 6 categories of instruments and practices in the EU countries:

- Household energy efficiency (for vulnerable consumers' homes)
- Financial support (to help vulnerable customers manage their bills)
- Protection (consumer protection measures for those in vulnerable situations)
- Information and engagement (to empower vulnerable consumers)
- Transparency and information sharing between stakeholders (to help identify, or target support to, consumers in vulnerable situations)
- Physical measures e.g. avoiding disconnections



Citizen's Energy Forum conclusions

London 17/12/2013



- Energy efficiency **measures should be tailor-made** taking into account specificities of different group of consumers. Any measures that may result in reducing the energy costs for vulnerable consumers should be prioritized.
 - » Energy efficiency obligations schemes or alternative measures (e.g. Energy Efficiency Fund) should allow that a defined part of the benefits is targeted at vulnerable consumers (tailored to the specific needs of specific groups of vulnerable consumers to avoid too many free-riders and not cost-efficient actions).

Citizen's Energy Forum conclusions

London 17/12/2013



- Member States **should prioritise long-term measures** to create long-term solutions to make the alleviation of energy poverty more sustainable.
 - Important area for intervention should be related to the renovation of buildings for social housing and low-income households and investments in more efficient generation and supply of heating and hot water.
 - Since many vulnerable consumers live in rented houses/apartments, Member States should quickly solve the problem of split owner-tenant incentives (e.g. by linking the maximum amount of rental charges to the energy performance of the building).
 - Social tariffs/discounts on bills are rather short term solutions and as such should be used only when there is an acute need for intervention.

Directive 2012/27/EU measures vs. vulnerable consumers



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Directive 2012/27/EU measures vs. vulnerable consumers



- Energy efficiency measures should ideally be designed in a way to **create win-win solutions**.
 - When introducing metering and billing (...), Member States should make sure that the vulnerable consumers are granted an equal access and given some help to take part in benefits offered by these measures
 - Introduction of electronic billing, actions by consumers to shift the time of use, etc, result in saving real costs. As such, legal frameworks must ensure that benefits from such measures are fairly shared between active consumers and the retailers/DSOs. Consumers not willing to take action should never be penalized in any sense.



Directive 2012/27/EU measures vs. vulnerable consumers



- Introduction of energy efficiency measures addressing (vulnerable) consumers needs to be **accompanied by targeted awareness raising.**
 - » Ensuring easily available practical free advice on how to save energy provided by independent organizations and involving different stakeholders (social welfare, charities, energy agencies, advice centres, consumers association and others whom vulnerable consumers trust).



Дякую за увагу!
Спасибо за внимание!

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