The Coalition for ENERGY SAVINGS

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New studies show that a higher 2030 energy efficiency target is cost-effective

Brussels, 15 October 2014 – Yesterday, two studies were presented showing that increasing energy efficiency is cost-effective with binding targets, contradicting the European Commission's impact assessment for the 2030 climate and energy policy framework.

These new findings come at an important time, ahead of the European Council next week, when EU leaders are expected to decide on the EU 2030 climate and energy framework. Although many member states are signalling their support for a binding energy efficiency target of 30%, others, lead by the UK and The Netherlands, are stating that the costs are too high, but this is based on flawed and censored information that increasing energy efficiency would increase costs exponentially.

A study by E3Mlab, which also provides the European Commission's central energy modelling, shows that on the contrary a trio of binding targets, 30% energy efficiency, 30% renewable energy share and 40% GHG emission reductions, is in fact no more expensive than a GHG target alone, and delivers much higher energy security, economic and environmental benefits.

The other study, lead by the Fraunhofer ISI, shows that energy efficiency substantially brings down system costs, and thus facilitates higher renewable energy shares.

"The myth that a sole greenhouse gas target is most cost-effective is broken once again" said Stefan Scheuer, Secretary General of the Coalition for Energy Savings. "EU leaders should be compelled to make firm commitments to higher energy efficiency targets to deliver the greater benefits and to make the 2030 package viable".

The Coalition for Energy Savings calls for a binding 40% energy efficiency target for 2030.

More information

- Study by E3Mlab:

  Development and evaluation of long-term scenarios for a balanced European climate and energy policy until 2030.
  http://www.e3mlab.eu/e3mlab/papers/141013_E3Mlab_Summary%20for%20policy%20makers_fiNAL.pdf

- Study by Fraunhofer ISI:

  Estimating energy system costs of sectoral RES and EE targets in the context of energy and climate targets for 2030. http://www.isi.fraunhofer.de/isi-en/x/projekte/targets-2030_331333.php

- Coalition for Energy Savings briefing paper: Inflating the costs of energy efficiency

  http://energycoalition.eu/sites/default/files/20140903%20Briefing%20-%20Censored%20Impact%20Assessment%20on%20Energy%20Efficiency%20-%20Coalition%20for%20Energy%20Savings.pdf

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The Coalition for Energy Savings brings together business, professionals, local authorities, trade unions and civil society associations. The Coalition's purpose is to make the case for a European energy policy that places a much greater, more meaningful emphasis on energy efficiency and savings. Coalition members represent more than 400 associations, 150 companies, 15 million supporters, more than 2 million employees, 1,000 cities and towns in 30 countries in Europe.

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