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Energy efficiency is the first step to reduce dependence:
European Council asks Commission to re-do its homework

Brussels, 21 March 2014 – Following their first debate on the 2030 climate and energy framework and in the light of recent events in Ukraine, EU leaders stressed the central role energy efficiency must play in reducing energy dependence and increasing the bargaining power with the external world. They called for more work on energy efficiency to be developed, including a plan to reduce EU energy dependence by June 2014 and an energy efficiency framework by October 2014.

"The weakness of the Commission's 2030 proposals on energy efficiency and thus on energy security has been exposed. The European Commission has to re-do its homework on energy efficiency," said Stefan Scheuer, Secretary General for the Coalition for Energy Savings. "We welcome that EU leaders have stressed energy efficiency as the first step to reduce energy demand and dependence. Together with the European Parliament's call for a binding energy efficiency target, the European Commission now has an unequivocal mandate to urgently propose an ambitious energy efficiency framework. This framework should be driven by a 2030 target, which is needed to trigger investments, boost the economy and combat climate change."

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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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