

Press Statement

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For more information, please contact:
Shradha Abt, Energy Efficiency Manager
Tel. +32 2 626 20 90

European Parliament ITRE Report walks the walk on upscaling renovation

Today 11 October, the European Parliament's Industry, Research and Energy Committee, led by Rapporteur MEP Bendt Bendtsen, successfully adopted its report on the revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings' Directive putting building renovation at the heart of the energy transition and efficiency policy.

"We are delighted to see a cross party majority in ITRE, sharing our conviction that building renovation is at the heart of Europe's climate, energy and jobs and growth agenda. It is clear that it is the intention of the ITRE committee to put energy efficiency first." said Jan te Bos, Director General Eurima.

In Europe, over three quarters of our GHG emissions for our COP21 goals need to come from Energy Efficiency and most of that potential rest in buildings. What is more, building renovation is about local construction activity by local business and local workers - making this sector the engine of the EU economy. As such, the proposed measures in the ITRE report will not only enable further action in this SME based sector but also help to cost-effectively achieve our climate and energy goals.

Eurima welcomes in particular the adoption of a vision for a Nearly Zero Energy Building Stock by 2050 to drive improved long term renovation strategies with measurable progress indicators including a 2030 milestone to highlight building contribution towards the energy efficiency target, the introduction of building renovation passports (BRPs) as guiding tools for consumers, 'trigger points', a focus on phasing out the worst performing buildings, stakeholders' consultation platforms. These measures give the needed regulatory predictability and certainty for business to plan their investments, while reinforcing the implementation of energy renovation on the ground.

Eurima nevertheless remains vigilant concerning the inter-institutional process going forward, notably, when it comes to the sequencing in renovation measures. A holistic approach to building renovation remains essential, unless energy demand reduction is adequately safeguarded through building envelope measures there is a risk of suboptimal energy, economic, comfort and wellbeing outcomes for the occupant.

"As part of the envelope measures, insulation has immediate and tangible high scores on energy savings, emissions reductions and better overall living conditions", added Pascal Eveillard, President of Eurima.

Given that the 'Clean Energy Package for All' pieces are inter-linked, it means that the EPBD efforts need to go hand in hand with an ambitious energy efficiency target, and a strong Art 7 on Energy Efficiency Obligations Schemes in the Energy Efficiency Directive, which are subsequently embedded in the EU Governance regulation.

Eurima counts on the Parliament to be the advocate towards Council during trilogues, ensuring that at least the same level of ambition is demonstrated at national and local level.

ENDS

Background Information

Eurima

Eurima is the European Insulation Manufacturers Association, representing the interests of all major mineral wool insulation producers throughout Europe. Eurima members employ over 21,000 people across Europe with the installation of insulation products accounting for an estimated 300,000 man-years.

Eurima members manufacture mineral wool insulation products. These products are used in residential and commercial buildings as well as industrial facilities. Glass and stone wool insulation secure a high level of comfort, low energy costs and minimised CO₂ emissions. Mineral wool insulation prevents heat loss through roofs, walls, floors, pipes and boilers, reduces noise pollution and protects homes and industrial facilities from the risk of fire.

For further information on energy efficiency in buildings, please visit: www.eurima.org