

Press Release

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Only 40% binding energy savings target for 2030 can deliver EU objectives for competitiveness, energy and climate

BRUSSELS, 11 October 2013 – In a position paper released today, the Coalition for Energy Savings makes the case for a 40% binding energy savings target to be included in the EU's 2030 climate and energy framework, as such a target is the only way to achieve the improvements in competitiveness, energy costs, energy security and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions needed to meet 2050 objectives.

"A binding energy savings target for 2030 is the cornerstone for a framework of mutually supporting policies," said Stefan Scheuer, Secretary General for the Coalition for Energy Savings. "Without it, the 2030 framework would not help the EU to act convincingly on immediate concerns for costs, jobs and competitiveness and long-term climate challenges."

According to Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research (Fraunhofer ISI), the EU has a 41% cost-effective end-use energy savings potential for 2030.

In tapping this potential, the EU would reap the wide-ranging economic, social and financial benefits of energy savings, including:

- Boosting its competitiveness through lower energy costs, increased industrial efficiency and a stronger demand for domestic products and services. Households and industry would receive net benefits of over €239 billion annually by 2030 in lower energy bills¹;
- Increasing net employment by 400,000 jobs by 2020²; and
- Reducing GHG emissions by between 49-61% compared to 1990 levels³, enabling the EU to step up its fight against climate change.

The Coalition also stresses in its position paper that a GHG target only approach to 2030 would fail to trigger additional energy savings and neglect an important opportunity to curb energy waste and excessive spending on energy imports.

The Fraunhofer research shows that a single 40% GHG emissions reduction target for 2030 could be achieved without driving any energy efficiency improvements beyond those that would occur under business as usual.

The European Commission is currently developing a proposal for the 2030 climate and energy policy framework that will be published later this year.

The Coalition for Energy Savings brings together business, professional, 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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Notes

[The Coalition for Energy Savings position paper](#)

[Fraunhofer ISI report: Analysis of a European Reference Target System for 2030](#)

[Institute for European Environmental Policy report: Review of costs and benefits of energy savings](#)

¹ Fraunhofer ISI, *Concrete Paths of the European Union to the 2°C Scenario*, 2012.

² European Commission, *Impact Assessment – EU Energy Efficiency Directive*, SEC (2011)779.

³ Fraunhofer ISI, *Analysis of a European Reference Target System for 2030*, 2013.