



**COMMON POSITION PAPER OF EREC, EUFORES, FEDARENE AND COGEN
EUROPE ON THE GREEN PAPER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
“TOWARDS A EUROPEAN STRATEGY FOR THE SECURITY OF ENERGY
SUPPLY”**

EREC, EUFORES, FEDARENE and COGEN Europe welcome the debate opened by the European Commission on the future of the EU energy supply through its publication of the Green Paper “Towards a European strategy for the security of energy supply”.

The above-mentioned organisations JOINTLY UNDERLINE the following necessities for any future energy strategy considerations:

1. Strong promotion of renewable and clean energy sources

An increased effort, with a concise promotion strategy for the further up-take of renewable energy sources within the European Union as well as the Candidate Countries, is crucial to ensure that EU targets in the field of RES can be met (i.e. 12 % for RES set in the White Paper “Energy for the future: renewable sources of energy”). Well-targeted communication and promotion activities on RES as well as a significant increase of funds for RES programmes (technological development and, especially, market penetration) are necessary.

2. Hierarchy of energy supply

When talking about energy supply, priority should be given to the following hierarchy:

1. Energy efficiency (non-use of energy is still the cleanest one)
2. Priority for renewables, the only truly indigenous source of energy, to significantly increase their share
3. Clean and diversified technologies to cover the remaining demand (priority should be given to the cleanest and safest available options, such as cogeneration or fuel cells)

3. Security of energy generation through decentralised systems and diversification of energy supply

Decentralised and diversified systems for energy generation are less vulnerable to accidents (extreme weather conditions, terrorist attacks, etc.) and reduce transport needs. Renewable energy sources and cogeneration are particularly suitable to be used in decentralised generation systems.



4. Internalisation of external costs

In any future debate, the true costs of energy have to be internalised and need to be reflected in energy prices. Socio-economic and environmental costs of energy generation, distribution and consumption have to be integrated in energy prices, thereby contributing to a fair competition between various energy sources.

In this sense, those support mechanisms for renewables and clean energy technologies that have shown the highest effectiveness should not only be allowed but encouraged, until a full internalisation of external costs has been reached.

Furthermore, new regulation is needed to tackle with side effects such as concentration or new situations such as green energy trading, resulting from energy market deregulation and liberalisation.

5. Democratic approval of any future energy strategy

Any future energy strategy has to be democratically approved by the European population. Furthermore, the European policy and targets have to be in line with national policies and targets in the respective areas. A multiple-oriented approach is needed: Both top-down and bottom-up, both supply sided and demand driven.

Apart from this, attention should be paid to the implementation of currently existing policy documents and energy legislation to achieve the EU and national targets for renewables and energy efficiency, for example

- The Directive on the promotion of electricity from renewable energy sources
- The non-electricity targets for renewable energy sources from the White Paper on RES
- The forthcoming Directive on energy efficiency in buildings
- The forthcoming Directive on biofuels
- The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency
- The Strategy for CHP

Member States should be encouraged to develop appropriate strategies to reach these targets.

6. International co-operation

A special emphasis should be put on international co-operation in order to ensure the competitiveness of the European industry as well as the economic and social welfare of the European Union, the Candidate Countries to the European Union as well as the developing world.



At this stage, it is crucial to ensure that the energy policies of Accession Countries are in-line with EU policies. Any harmonisation in this area should be fostered and encouraged.

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