



Question 9

How should the European Union combat climate change? What role will energy saving play?

3M believes that the EU must continue combating climate change through a multi-prong strategy which incorporates environmental objectives into all EU policy areas, but which also recognises that a gradual transition is necessary to allow companies to adapt in the most economic fashion. 3M endorses a voluntary, market-based approach to the climate change challenge, one that involves all nations and one which includes provisions for emissions trading and credit for early action.

It goes without saying that 3M agrees fully with the Green Paper's analysis that energy saving has a significant role to play in dealing with the climate change challenge and in achieving long-term sustainable development. This is particularly true for efforts to improve the energy efficiency of buildings which account for 40% of energy consumption.

The science of global climate change is evolving, but 3M believes that sufficient information exists for all of us (public and private sectors, developed and developing countries) to take specific, voluntary action to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.

We believe that the measures already taken by 3M to address climate change could set an example for other companies. These include:

- developing and continually improving an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions;
- continuous improvements in energy efficiency for our manufacturing and administrative operations;
- supporting continuous research to assess the scientific and economic impacts of strategies to address Climate Change, while considering the interrelationship to other environmental issues;
- reducing emissions of non-CO2 greenhouse gases through process improvements and installation of abatement equipment;
- assessing the potential use of renewable energy sources at 3M operations;
- increasing the use of energy efficiency products within 3M and encouraging their use by 3M suppliers and customers (we are very active for example in the production of window films which can reduce heat loss in buildings by 70%,)
- investing in research and development to create new products and technology to reduce emissions and to promote energy saving (fuel cells, light management...).



Question 11 Should incentives or regulatory measures be used to increase energy saving in buildings?

With energy consumption of buildings accounting for 40% of the EU's energy requirements 3M believes that only EU-wide regulatory measures will lead rapidly to achieving the EU's objectives in terms of energy savings in buildings as set out in both the Green Paper and more specifically in the proposed Directive "on the energy performance of buildings." Cost considerations, market forces and the growing tradition of corporate responsibility for the environment are all moving in the direction of greater energy conservation and therefore the need for greater energy efficiency in buildings, but at a time when the economic slow-down makes any additional short-term expense more important than the long-term benefits, only the obligation created by law will provide the necessary acceleration in the energy saving process.

This conviction is reinforced by the urgency of the situation in view of the EU's commitment to cut greenhouse gas emissions as a result of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol and expectations that it will move on to even more ambitious emission reductions. Although the EU had by 1999 reduced CO₂ emissions by 4% it was seriously behind in its commitment to reduce all greenhouse gas emissions by 8% by 2012.

Moreover, an EU-wide initiative nips in the bud any national initiatives that would serve only to further divide the single market.

Improving the energy efficiency of buildings is one of our businesses. We have been producing solar glare and heat retention films for windows for the past 30 years, and we are proud of our record. Through improved insulation the film can reduce the heat increase from solar glare through single-glazed windows by 72% and through double-glaze windows by 60%. With 40% of air-conditioning spent in simply fighting solar heat gain, our products provide a ready solution to energy efficiency, and we are not the only company using the latest technology and materials to improve the environment.

We recognise that while fiscal incentives would encourage the introduction of these new products, only by making specific energy saving targets obligatory, can Europe move fast enough to achieve its targets.

Questions 13: How can we, the European Union, Member States, regions, producers and consumers, pull together in order to evolve a sustainable system of energy supply? How are we to prepare the energy options for the future?

In any sustainable system or energy option for the future, improving Europe's record of energy efficiency must play a central role. Without concerted action now the risk of increasing Europe's dependence on imported energy to 70% by 2030 should



represent a wake-up call that 3M hopes will motivate all players into appropriate action.

The fact that technology is already readily available that could significantly reduce energy consumption thereby both reducing dependence and improving the environment makes the current situation all the more unfortunate. Although most companies and services have little control over the source of the energy they use, 3M believes that every player has a contribution to make no matter how small in terms of energy efficiency investments. Although not all companies and services can manufacture energy saving devices, all companies can buy them.

Such investments would also help stimulate the European economy.