

Contribution to the debate on the Green Paper
Towards a European strategy for the security of energy supply

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What are you areas of interest?	Climate protection, adaptive energy management, human rights in energy policy, lignite mining industry, transregional renewable energy strategies
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Please add your answers after the question(s) which deal most closely with the subject(s) on which you wish to comment so that the Commission can deal with the remarks efficiently and swiftly.

<p>Can the European Union accept an increase in its dependence on external energy sources without compromising its security of supply and European competitiveness? For which sources of energy would it be appropriate, if this were the case, to foresee a framework policy for imports? In this context, is it appropriate to favour an economic approach: energy cost; or geopolitical approach: risk of disruption?</p>	<p>Answer: Solar electricity from North Africa probably represents the most viable perspective for alleviating long-term shortages of energy. EU expansion to the south would significantly reduce the political risks inherent to this concept.</p>
<p>Does not Europe's increasingly integrated internal market, where decisions taken in one country have on an impact on the others, call for a consistent and co-ordinated policy at Community level?</p>	<p>Answer: The EU regulations issued in the past few years have provided a major contribution to clarifying issues in the member states. Yet remaining differences of opinion are essential to the learning process ahead. Avoid regulating too many facets of diversity.</p>
<p>Are tax and state aid policies in the energy sector an obstacle to competitiveness in the European Union or not? Given the failure of attempts to harmonise indirect taxation,</p>	

	<p>should not the whole issue of energy taxation be re-examined taking account of energy and environmental objectives?</p> <p>Answer: The taxation that will be best understood and accepted by the general public is that type producing revenues that are immediately reinvested in research, development, and application of environmentally benign technologies to promote sustainable conditions of existence.</p>
	<p>In the framework of an ongoing dialogue with producer countries, what should supply and investment promotion agreements contain? Given the importance of a partnership with Russia in particular, how can stable quantities, prices and investments be guaranteed?</p> <p>Answer: The prerequisite for energy security is investment security. Participation of host countries or regions in investments is an important factor of self-identification and thus of fiscal stabilization. In the case of Russia, such a policy should be mandatory to reduce capital flowing out of the country. At the same time, price stability for energy exports from Russia can be enhanced by simultaneously pursuing renewable energy and energy efficiency within the EU as well as solar energy generation in North Africa.</p>
	<p>Should more reserves be stockpiled - as already done for oil - and should other energy sources be included, such as gas or coal? Should the Community take on a greater role in stock management and, if so, what should the objectives and modalities be? Does the risk of physical disruption to energy supplies justify more onerous measures for access to resources?</p> <p>Answer: The Community probably won't be able to avoid intensifying such measures, but the public should be cautioned not to derive an increased state of security from them.</p>
	<p>How can we develop and ensure better operation of energy transport networks in the European Union and neighbouring countries so as to enable the internal market to function properly and guarantee security of supply?</p> <p>Answer: All transport facilities should be in the public domain, with energy companies paying to use them, just as fuel trucks are charged to use highways.</p>
	<p>The development of some renewable energy sources calls for major efforts in terms of research and technological development, investment aid and operational aid. Should co-financing of this aid include a contribution from sectors which received substantial initial development aid and which are now highly profitable (gas, oil, nuclear)?</p> <p>Answer: That would be ex post facto and not ethical. Such payments were not part of the original terms. When the Soviets marched into Afghanistan, the development of gas, oil and nuclear alternatives dominated the political agenda. The two major spheres of power have thankfully been reconciled without shedding a drop of blood. Why not raise the money now needed for developing sustainable energy sources by taxing the armaments and entertainment industries? Without arms trafficking and the worldwide media for publicity, terrorism would wither on the vine, substantially reducing one of the major</p>

	<p>dangers to energy supplies and the safety of nuclear power stations, chemical plants, etc. Co-financing should be derived from ecologically oriented use taxes, to which there should be no exceptions (as is presently the case with electricity generated from lignite in Germany and the import of energy-intensive products in general).</p>
	<p>Seeing that nuclear energy is one of the elements in the debate on tackling climate change and energy autonomy, how can the Community find a solution to the problem of nuclear waste, reinforcing nuclear safety and developing research into reactors of the future, in particular fusion technology ?</p> <p>Answer: Fusion technology was originally predicted to be functional by the early 80's. It will take another half-century to determine whether it can contribute to meeting the world's energy needs, and by that time many alternatives will be available. Nuclear waste? Gorleben could be scooped out by glaciers during the next Ice Age, which will descend upon Europe when the Gulf Stream is interrupted by climate change. The Russians will soon be manufacturing floating atomic reactors and selling them all over the world unless the European Community develops a superior alternative. The vested coal and gas interests will naturally attempt to impede the pursuit of such options, because the prospect of successful implementation would cause their stocks to decline in value.</p>
	<p>Which policies should permit the European Union to fulfil its obligations under the Kyoto Protocol? What measures could be taken in order to exploit fully potential energy savings which would help to reduce both our external dependence and CO2 emissions?</p> <p>Answer: How about allocating more money to the researchers and technicians capable of solving this problem? I worked for the US space industry in the 60's. If NASA had been organized like the Kyoto process, mankind might not have reached the moon to this day. My impression is that governments are hoping to alleviate the world climate problem essentially at no cost, while subsidizing conventional industrial projects and highways with billions.</p>
	<p>Can an ambitious programme to promote biofuels and other substitute fuels, including hydrogen, geared to 20% of total fuel consumption by 2020, continue to be implemented via national initiatives, or are co-ordinated decisions required on taxation, distribution and prospects for agricultural production ?</p> <p>Answer: This objective can only be achieved by strong centralized policy, since the USA will be pursuing the same course.</p>
	<p>Should energy saving in buildings (40% of energy consumption), whether public or private, new or under renovation, be promoted through incentives such as tax breaks, or are regulatory measures required along the lines of those adopted for major industrial installations?</p> <p>Answer: More than that: The incentives should be retroactive to insure that essentially all buildings are retrofitted. The EU can eliminate funding in many other areas simply by declaring that Europe is to become CO₂ neutral within 30 years. That will create</p>

	countless employment opportunities and new cultures of living.
	<p>Energy saving in the transport sector (32% of energy consumption) depends on redressing the growing imbalance between road and rail. Is this imbalance inevitable, or could corrective action be taken, however unpopular, notably to encourage lower use of cars in urban areas? How can the aims of opening up the sector to competition, investment in infrastructure to remove bottlenecks and intermodality be reconciled?</p> <p>Answer: You are decades late in posing these questions. One can easily make fish soup from an aquarium, but the reverse procedure is extremely difficult. In eastern Germany, the production of even more cars (Opel in Eisenach, VW in Mosel, Porsche and BMW in Leipzig) is regarded as one of the few remaining options for reviving the local economy. Who is now going to decide that he should be driving less? This path of economic development is being promoted by political St. Augustines who pray: Dear Lord, allow me to reduce CO₂ emissions – but not yet.</p>
	<p>How can we develop more collaborative visions and integrate the long-term dimension into deliberations and actions undertaken by public authorities and other involved parties in order to evolve a sustainable system of energy supply. How are we to prepare the energy options for the future?</p> <p>Answer: I recommend you sign long-term consulting contracts with incorruptible scientists while curtailing the influence of the established energy industry on EU policy. Create a few opulently funded model regions with highly stringent, mandatory efficiency guidelines consented to by a political majority, and reduce energy consumption to a level close to the theoretical minimum. The market alone is never going to fulfil the potential that technological research has already made available to alleviate many of the problems you are addressing.</p>
	<p>Any other questions or proposals:</p> <p>I have repeatedly experienced how technological progress can be thwarted by the defenders of partial interests. Have a look at the website www.heuersdorf.de to see a prime example of what I mean.</p>

Thank you for replying to this questionnaire.