



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 20 May 2008

7033/08

LIMITE

PV/CONS	17
TRANS	63
TELECOM	20
ENER	67

DRAFT MINUTES

Subject: **2854th** meeting of the Council (**TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS and ENERGY**), held in Brussels on 28 February 2008

CONTENTS

Page

1.	Adoption of the agenda.....	3
2.	Approval of the list of "A" items.....	3
3.	Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions – "A European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) – Towards a low-carbon future"	3
4.	Climate-Energy Legislative Package.....	3
5.	Internal Energy Market Legislative Package – Policy debate on key issues.....	4
6.	Any Other Business – International relations in the field of energy and security of supply – Implementation of the Action Plan "Energy Policy for Europe"	5
ANNEX	6

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1. **Adoption of the agenda**

6625/08 OJ/CONS 12 TRANS 46 TELECOM 15 ENER 51

The Council adopted the agenda as set out in 6625/08.

2. **Approval of the list of "A" items**

6837/08 PTS A 11

The Council approved the list of "A" items as set out in 6837/08.

3. **Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions**
"A European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) – Towards a low-carbon future"

- Adoption of Council conclusions
15458/07 ENER 288 ENV 640 RECH 382
6326/1/08 ENER 45 ENV 85 RECH 53 REV 1

The Council adopted the Council conclusions as set out in 6326/1/08 REV 1, noting the abstention of the Austrian delegation. On this occasion Austria submitted the statement as set out in the Annex.

4. **Climate-Energy Legislative Package**

- Policy debate
(Public deliberation, pursuant to Article 8(1)(a) CRP)
5421/08 ENER 15 ENV 24 TRANS 15 AGRI 15 CODEC 58
5935/08 ENER 36 ENV 62 TRANS 26 AGRI 33 CODEC 119

The Council held a policy debate on the basis of the questions set out in 5935/08.

5. **Internal Energy Market Legislative Package**

- (a) **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2003/54 concerning common rules for the internal market in electricity**
- (b) **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2003/55 concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas**
- (c) **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing an Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators**
- (d) **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1228/03 on conditions for access to the network for cross-border exchanges in electricity**
- (e) **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1775/05 on conditions for access to the natural gas transmission networks**
- Policy debate on key issues
(Public deliberation, pursuant to Article 8(1)(c) CRP)
 - 13043/07 ENER 221 CODEC 948
 - 13045/07 ENER 222 CODEC 949
 - 13046/07 ENER 223 CODEC 950
 - 13048/07 ENER 224 CODEC 951
 - 13049/07 ENER 225 CODEC 952
 - 6324/1/08 ENER 44 CODEC 181 REV 1

The Council held a public policy debate on the internal energy market package on the basis of a presidency note (6324/1/08 REV 1).

6. Any Other Business

- **International relations in the field of energy and security of supply –
Implementation of the Action Plan "Energy Policy for Europe"**
 - Information from the Commission

The Council took note of the information provided by the Commission on the events and developments relating to international relations that have taken place since December 2007. This information covered inter alia the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation, relations with Turkmenistan and Ukraine, the Euro-Mediterranean energy cooperation, the Energy Community, as well as the 2nd strategic energy review to be adopted by the Commission in November 2008 which will focus on security of supply.

Re. item 3 on the agenda

**Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions
"A European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) – Towards a low-carbon future"**

STATEMENT BY AUSTRIA

"The March 2007 European Council confirmed that "it is for each and every Member State to decide whether or not to rely on nuclear energy". In Austria's view, however, the use of nuclear energy cannot be reconciled with the principles of sustainable development, nor does it constitute a cost-effective and sustainable means of combating climate change.

Austria respects the national sovereignty of other Member States, but – not least for reasons of fair competition – does not consider that it is the EU's task to promote energy technologies which are already established and not sustainable.

It is rather the task of the EU and the Member States to guarantee the safety of the population and to protect health and the environment by appropriate means.

Austria thus sees the role of the EU and EURATOM as that of supporting the Member States in establishing rules to protect health and the environment in the field of the nuclear industry, and not of promoting established, non-sustainable technologies such as nuclear energy. This is the reason why the development of new reactor technologies is not financed by the EU's budget.

As far as future reactor systems are concerned, research is already being carried out under the EURATOM framework programme to assess the potential and the safety and waste disposal aspects of these systems, with a view to maintaining the level of safety in the EU, which is already very high, and to improving considerably the long-term disposal of radioactive waste. This framework is sufficient. Any future activities at EU level must come under this framework and meet the conditions formulated in relation thereto."
