



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 11 September 2014

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ENER 343

NOTE

from:	General Secretariat of the Council
to:	Delegations
Subject:	Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - Main challenges for completing the Internal Energy Market = Draft Council conclusions: <i>preparatory steps and tentative timetable</i>

The Commission is expected to present in September/October 2014 its Communications on the completion of the Internal Energy Market and the Retail Market (together with accompanying Staff Working Documents covering *inter alia* the functioning of the ITO model). The Communications will be presented in the Council Energy Working Party as soon as possible.

In view of the objective of the completion of the Internal Energy Market by the end of this year, as set by the European Council, the Presidency intends to prepare draft Council conclusions on this subject for adoption at the TTE (Energy) Council on 9 December.

Without prejudice to the content of the upcoming Communications, the Presidency proposes in Annex an indicative list of topics that the Council conclusions could address. Before circulating a first outline of draft conclusions, delegations' comments on the suggested topics - as well as possible additional topics - are invited by **23 September**, c.o.b.

In addition, the Annex contains a provisional timetable that sets out the main steps in the run-up to the December 2014 TTE Council.

Indicative list of topics

- Whereas [European Council conclusions, Council Report of December 2013, ...]
- IEM completion is the best & most cost-efficient instrument to achieve the three pillars of EU energy policy: sustainability, competitiveness and affordability

Towards the completion of the Internal Energy Market ¹

- Implementation of Third Energy Packages
- Network codes
- Infrastructure / interconnection capacities / implementation of Projects of Common Interest
- Regulatory aspects (Role of ENTSO-E, ENTSO-G, ACER, Madrid Forum, Florence Forum)

Wholesale markets

- Regional cooperation, including cooperation amongst TSOs, market coupling
- Market-driven investment signals for the whole EU
- Improving market liquidity
- Transparency

Retail markets

- Energy services
- Demand response (consumer participation, pricing tools, smart metering & smart grids, role of ESCO's, ...)
- Technological innovation, standard setting and new opportunities for manufacturing and service companies
- Removing barriers and increasing competition

Next steps

- Review by [2017]

Priorities and Conclusions

¹ Note: this section could address electricity and gas markets separately

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

22 July	WP ENER: update on preparation of draft Council conclusions
16 September	WP ENER: presentation of outline of conclusions / reactions
23 September	deadline for comments on outline
30 September	WP ENER: examination of 1st draft conclusions
6 October	Informal Energy Ministerial
10 October	deadline for comments on 1st draft
21 October	WP ENER: examination of 2nd draft conclusions
29 October	deadline for comments on 2nd draft
4 November	WP ENER: examination of 3rd draft conclusions
11 November	deadline for comments on 3rd draft
18 November	WP ENER: final examination of draft conclusions
26 November	Coreper
9 December	TTE