

Energy regulators seek to enable digitalisation in the consumer interest

- **CEER consults on how to enable energy digitalisation in the consumer interest**
- **EU and US energy regulators meet on cybersecurity and market monitoring**
- **Charles Esser is the next CEER Secretary General**

Today at the CEER-NARUC International Forum¹, the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER)², launched a public consultation on its report “[dynamic regulation to enable digitalisation of the energy system](#)”³. The report examines the implications of digitalisation for the energy sector, and for consumers in particular, for feedback by 14 May.

CEER President, Dr Annegret Groebel, explained regulators’ approach to energy digitalisation: *“Energy regulators are keen to enable digitalisation that unlocks efficiency and value for consumers. Digitalisation facilitates the transition towards a more flexible energy system by a greater use of data. Consumer need to be both empowered through digitalisation and adequately protected against risks, and we want to mitigate against a digital divide. The consultation documents seeks feedback on regulatory proposals.”*

Today’s CEER-NARUC International Forum focused on energy digitalisation and cybersecurity. This public event, organised by energy regulators, brought together international experts including regulators (FERC and NARUC), the International Energy Agency, the World Economic Forum, the European Commission and ENTSO-E. The event highlights several recent reports on energy digitalisation and cybersecurity⁴. The event was followed by the European Commission’s energy digitalisation event, making for a full day of energy digitalisation discussions.

EU and US energy regulators meet on cybersecurity and market monitoring

Today’s CEER-NARUC International Forum marked continuing dialogue between European and American energy regulators. Yesterday, at a closed roundtable, NARUC and FERC joined CEER and ACER for discussions on regulatory independence, wholesale nodal pricing, the future role of gas and market monitoring. See the [Conclusions of the 14th EU-US Regulatory Roundtable](#)⁵.

Charles Esser is the next CEER Secretary General

Charles Esser will be the next CEER Secretary General, effective from 15 April 2019 for a 3-year term. Mr Esser has worked as a High-Level Administrator (HLA) in the CEER Secretariat since June 2017. He has 18-years’ experience in the energy field including in the International Energy Agency (IEA), government and not-for-profit sector. He will succeed Andrew Ebrill who shortly returns to the Irish energy regulatory authority, CRU.

What’s next?

- CEER welcomes feedback to its public consultation on Dynamic Regulation to Enable Digitalisation of the Energy System by 14th May.
- Save the date: Friday 21 June for the CEER workshop on cybersecurity.

Brussels, 19 March 2019

Ends - see Notes for Editors

Notes for Editors:

1. The 2nd CEER-NARUC International Forum on energy digitalisation and cyber security was organised jointly by the US and European associations of regulators, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER).
2. The Council of European Energy Regulatory (CEER) is the voice of Europe's national energy regulators. Its members and observers are the independent statutory bodies responsible for energy regulation in 37 European countries. CEER, based in Brussels, deals with a broad range of energy issues including retail markets and consumers; distribution networks; smart grids; flexibility; sustainability; and international cooperation. www.ceer.eu
3. The CEER public consultation report "[dynamic regulation to enable digitalisation of the energy system](#)" addresses the implications of digitalisation for the energy sector, and for consumers in particular. It considers the changes that may be needed to empower and unlock the benefits of digitalisation for consumers and to protect them against the risks. Digitalisation is one of the 3 pillars of [CEER's 3D Strategy](#) for the period 2019-21. CEER seeks input to help prioritise the related actions that energy regulators can take over the course of its 3-year, 3D strategy.
4. Recent relevant reports on energy digitalisation and cybersecurity:
 - [CEER's cybersecurity report on Europe's electricity and gas sectors](#) (October 2018) gives an overview of the state of cybersecurity in the energy sector, with a particular focus on the need for trust, the use of Cloud computing, Big Data analytics and the European legislative environment, including the NIS Directive, GDPR and the Clean Energy for All Europeans Package. The report outlines recommendations concerning those regulatory and organisational aspects which may help in improving the effectiveness of cybersecurity.
 - See the NARUC report on [Cybersecurity Strategy Development Guide](#), October 2018 and NARUC's [Cybersecurity: A Primer for State Utility Regulators](#), Version 3.0 January 2017
5. Energy regulators from Europe and the United States met on March 18, 2019, in Brussels, Belgium, for the 14th EU-US Energy Regulators' Roundtable to discuss common challenges and exchange best practices and experiences. European and U.S. energy regulators have, since the year 2000, maintained an informal dialogue to exchange views and experience on selected topics of mutual interest across the electricity and gas markets, compare regulatory approaches, and discuss international developments and cooperation. The EU-US roundtable is jointly organised by the Council of European Energy Regulators ([CEER](#)) and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners ([NARUC](#)), the associations representing national/state energy regulators in Europe and USA respectively. Regulators from the US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ([FERC](#)) and the European Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators ([ACER](#)) also participated in the roundtable, along with two external speakers from the European Commission and an expert academic on nodal pricing, Professor Anthony Papavasiliou.

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