

Energy regulators launch their 3D Strategy and Smart Technology report

- **Digitalisation: Drive forward a new deal for consumers in a digital world**
- **Decarbonisation at least cost**
- **Dynamic regulation: European solutions for adaptive regulation in a fast-changing world**

Today at the [2018 annual conference](#) of the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER)¹, European energy regulators launched for public consultation their proposed 3-year, [3D strategy from 2019 to 2021, focused on Digitalisation, Decarbonisation and Dynamic Regulation](#).

CEER also published a [Smart Technology Development report](#)² which links with the Digitalisation and Dynamic Regulation objectives of our 3D strategy. This report identifies the impact of new technologies (including the Internet of Things and blockchain) on energy consumers and on regulation.

CEER President, Garrett Blaney, explained regulators' proposed 3D strategy:

"While energy regulators are not the origin of digitalisation technologies and decarbonisation policies, we should be enablers. Regulation must be stable, but not static, and energy regulators must facilitate positive change. Hence, our 3D strategy focuses on digitalisation, decarbonisation at least cost, and dynamic regulation".

Digitalisation: Drive forward a new deal for consumers in a digital world

CEER's strategic objective on Digitalisation is to:

- Foster competitive European markets that protect and empower consumers;
- Enable cost-savings for consumers using digitalisation with a whole energy system approach;
- Ensure an agile regulatory framework enables innovation while ensuring a level playing field;
- Strengthen cooperation among sectoral regulators, consumer protection authorities, etc. to ensure consumers are protected as traditional energy markets are reinvented.

Decarbonisation at least cost

Energy decarbonisation must be achieved at least cost to consumers. This can be done by:

- Developing an energy market design that minimises the need for subsidy mechanisms³;
- Minimising the whole energy system cost of decarbonisation, in both the gas and electricity sectors, while maintaining a high level of security of supply.

Dynamic regulation: European solutions for adaptive regulation in a fast-changing world

CEER is determined to make regulation agile and coherent in responding to digitalisation and decarbonisation, where European energy consumers' interests are forefront in our approach.

What's next?

CEER's 3D strategy will be implemented through its annual work programme. CEER will, in the coming weeks, publish a report on Tendering Systems for Renewables and another on Flexibility. These reports are examples of how CEER delivers on the Decarbonisation and Digitalisation agenda. The main findings of the CEER report on RES tendering will be presented at a joint CEER-EBRD [Sustainable Energy Week event \(07 June\) on renewable energy financing and support](#).

CEER welcomes comments, by 10 August, on its [public consultation on the CEER 3D strategy](#) and how the proposed 2019 Work Programme deliverables help deliver the 3D strategy.

Brussels, 05 June 2018

Ends - see Notes for Editors

Notes for Editors:

1. 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 36 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.
2. The CEER Smart Technology Report examines the potential impact of 5 emerging technologies which are changing the traditional role of the energy consumer and how they engage with retail energy markets: 1.) smart home technologies and Internet of Things; 2.) self-generation; 3.) energy storage; 4.) charging stations and electric vehicles; and 5.) blockchain applications in the energy sector. Examining whether emerging trends require changes to regulation, CEER identifies the need for further investigation into new/changed regulation in four major areas:
 - In the context of increased need for data exchange, CEER will work along with other relevant authorities on cybersecurity, data privacy, standardisation and monitoring;
 - Regarding the development of additional services or bundled products related to self-generation, storage, energy efficiency and maintenance sold along with energy supply, CEER will continue its work to promote a fit-for-purpose market design that addresses concerns on how competition, consumer protection, empowerment, transparency and monitoring shall be ensured in the future;
 - CEER will consider whether there is a need for energy-specific rules for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, depending on the cases, in order to ensure an appropriate level of competition and consumer protection/empowerment;
 - CEER will pursue work on removing potential barriers in the market to enable emerging technologies and will consider regulation in light of changes to the way consumers interact with and participate in energy markets.
3. EU countries provide support (subsidies) for Renewable Energy Sources (RES). CEER has long advocated that support schemes are only a stepping-stone. Renewable targets should, in the medium/long-run, be achieved by fully integrating renewables into Europe's wholesale electricity markets. Indeed, a key objective of the proposed Clean Energy legislative package is to retrofit Europe's wholesale markets so that they facilitate and appropriately reward renewables, which CEER welcomes. Support schemes should be seen a transitional measure only. Why? As renewable sourced electricity will dominate the energy system in the near future, the pillar for its midterm deployment should be the market in order to keep it sustainable and affordable for the consumers. Supports schemes, where needed, should be cost-efficient and ensure the integration of RES into the market. This refers not only to the way levels of support are being determined, e.g. through auctions/ tenders or some other kind of competitive procedure, but especially to the way RES actors have to play in accordance with basic market rules, e.g. selling RES electricity on a market place and taking on balancing responsibility.

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