

Draft CEER 2013 Work Programme For public consultation

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1. INTRODUCTION

Europe's energy regulators work **cooperatively on energy market and regulatory issues through two bodies**: the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER) and the EU Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER). Indeed, the European energy regulators are committed to a complementary approach to energy regulation in Europe; with ACER focusing on its statutory tasks related to cross-border market development and oversight and CEER pursuing a broader variety of issues.

CEER's membership and activities provide a broad vision of Europe's energy landscape both within and beyond EU borders. In 2012, CEER expanded its boundaries beyond those of the European Union by adding a new category to its membership and welcoming two Observers: Switzerland and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; thus bringing CEER's regulatory representation to 31 national regulatory authorities (NRAs).

Through CEER, regulators work towards promoting European objectives for the achievement of an internal market. They pool their collective resources and experience to address a wide range of regulatory and market issues, from customer rights and empowerment to renewable integration and climate change objectives to the technological development of our electricity and gas networks. Maintaining and strengthening our dialogue with regulators around the world is also an important role that CEER plays for exchanging best international practice and sharing experience of the challenges many of us are facing in the energy sector.

Work on many of these areas is also relevant to regulators' cooperation through ACER, as it develops EU-wide wholesale market rules and implements measures to oversee the integrity and transparency of energy trading, among other things. With a clear overlap in our respective membership and the regulatory focus of our activities, CEER works closely with and supports the work of ACER, as well as pursuing a broader variety of issues of interest to regulators. Regulators themselves contribute significant resources to developing ACER's deliverables.

In order to demonstrate the complementarity of European regulatory efforts, CEER and ACER are launching their draft 2013 work programmes at the same time. We **invite comments to both documents**, **in parallel**, **by 30 July 2012** and would like to exchange views with stakeholders at a **joint ACER-CEER lunchtime presentation on 11 July 2012**. Registration details for the event are available on the CEER and ACER websites.



2. PROCESS FOR THE 2013 WP

Consultation

In the past, the CEER work programme was each year finalised and approved in December, for the following year. On the other hand, the ACER Regulation prescribes a multi-deadline process for the ACER WP, starting in June and resulting in the final WP by 30 September¹.

CEER has established a practice of publicly consulting on its proposed deliverables. For next year, ACER has also decided to consult. Therefore, in order to present a comprehensive picture of regulatory activity in the year ahead, we shall align the timing of the work programmes, presenting them jointly to stakeholders and inviting comments, in parallel, on the two sets of deliverables.

In order to meet the timeline set out by the ACER Regulation, the CEER work programme has been developed earlier. However, the tight deadlines (June through September) mean that CEER's usual 8-week public consultation practice is not feasible. Whilst we regret that this obliges feedback to be sent during a 4-week period in July, we hope stakeholders will be able to provide their views on the two texts. In addition, these short timings mean that we will be deviating from our standard practice of online questionnaires and would be grateful to receive your feedback via email.

Please send us your views on the CEER 2013 work programme to <u>WP2013@ceer.eu</u> by **30 July 2012.**

To learn about ACER's 2013 activities and work programme, visit: www.acer.europa.eu.

Public Presentation

ACER and CEER are also pleased to invite all interested persons, representatives of the EU Institutions and stakeholders to a **lunchtime presentation** on our Draft 2013 Work Programmes (WPs). This lunchtime presentation takes place on **Wednesday 11 July 2012 in Brussels** (Renaissance Hotel, rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels).

Registration for this lunchtime presentation can be done online via the <u>ACER website</u>.

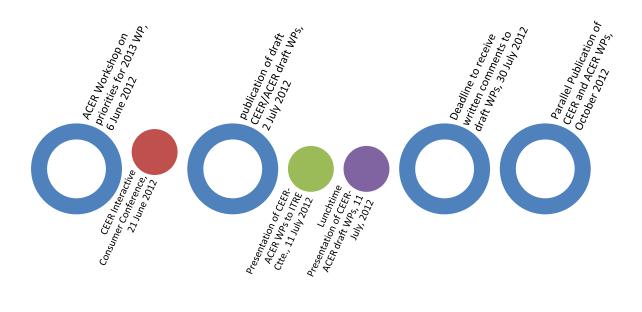
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The ACER WP is prepared by the Director by 30 June and presented to the Commission/European Parliament and ACER Board of Regulators (BoR). The BoR, in turn, approves the draft WP by 1 September. Finally, the ACER Administrative Board adopts the ACER WP before 30 September.



Next steps

Following the close of the public consultation, as well as any feedback received at the CEER Customers Conference on 21 June and the WP Presentation 11 July, CEER will review its draft proposals and develop a final work programme. The finalised version of the CEER 2013 Work programme may therefore change in several respects as compared to this version, drawing from the stakeholder input and also depending on internal considerations and developments, including the availability of expert resources among our members.





3. OUR PRIORITIES IN 2013

CEER's priorities for 2013 emphasise the central importance of energy customers to the development of energy policy and underline that neither customers, nor efficiency nor sustainability can be forgotten in the development of functioning wholesale and retail markets. CEER will continue to concentrate on the implementation and monitoring of EU energy policy. We will continue to develop our international relations with regulators across Europe and beyond. Recognising the tight interlinkages between these and other aspects in reaching a **competitive**, sustainable and secure energy market in Europe, regulators will continue to concentrate their efforts on a multi-themed approach.

The deliverables proposed in this draft WP represent our preliminary thinking of our activities in the year ahead. The June (customer) and July (WP presentation) events along with stakeholder feedback will further influence our decisions on the shape of the final WP. In addition, the availability of NRA resources to undertake this work (also keeping in mind our activities in ACER) will also necessarily inform our final choices.

As well as developing concrete deliverables, CEER dedicates significant resources and expertise to, and is actively engaged in, a range of EU initiatives, including European Commission-led working groups on vulnerable customers, price transparency and green washing; DG ENER's expert groups under its smart grids task force; standardisation activities within CEN/CENELEC; and others. We remain committed to engaging with the Institutions and stakeholders on energy issues where regulators have a key role to play.

3.1. CUSTOMERS

With the launch of the CEER initiative to build a 2020 vision for Europe's energy customers and the interactive conference on 21 June 2012, CEER is making clear that putting customers at the heart of the Internal Energy Market (IEM) is a key issue for regulators. We have championed consumer rights and emphasised in our communications that the benefit of the consumer is the ultimate goal of sound energy regulation. This customer and competitive retail market focus will naturally continue in 2013 and grow as our consumer vision takes on an ever clearer shape and translates into concrete actions and deliverables. Indeed, our customer deliverables will be reviewed and may be revised in the light of the present public consultation as well as stakeholder feedback to CEER's discussion paper on "Building a 2020 vision for Europe energy customers," presented at the June customer conference.



Drawing from the 4 themes identified in our preliminary work for the vision, our preliminary proposals for customer deliverables include analysis of the involvement of consumer organisations in the regulatory process; a review of how smart metering is progressing across Europe; a look at key processes where the customers and distribution system operators interact (connection, maintenance, etc,); and a review of current practices in terms of customers' access to information on the cost of their energy).

3.2. DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETITIVE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL ENERGY MARKETS

ACER has a number of responsibilities related to functioning wholesale markets. CEER has complemented this work by developing EU-wide target models for electricity and gas which are accepted by stakeholders as a major contribution to the achievement of competitive wholesale markets by the 2014 deadline set by EU heads of state. Market monitoring is an important ongoing activity for CEER. This includes DSO unbundling, consumer rights and retail markets, as well as specific topics in the electricity and gas markets.

We will also continue our efforts to develop further elements from the Gas Target Model by reviewing the implementation of the various recommendations it contains and continuing our work on incremental gas capacity.

Regulators will also continue to work on technical aspects of developing our energy markets, from data management to voltage quality to blackout prevention and restoration planning to the development of smart grids (and smart regulation). Building from our longstanding work on electricity quality of supply issues, we plan to propose a methodology for updating quality indicators of electricity grids. We will also analyse demand side management practices and tools to provide flexibility in future energy markets where demand response and renewables will play an increasing role.

3.3. NEW LEGISLATIVE/POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

Through CEER, the energy regulators are committed to powering the EU energy debate and to serving as valued partners to the European Institutions in shaping energy policy and legislative proposals.



CEER will continue its analysis of and reaction to initiatives from the European Commission which impact on energy markets, as and when such proposals arise. As the European Commission's work plan for 2013 has not yet been published, we highlight only those issues which we can identify at this stage.

3.3.1. Sustainability

We have witnessed a rapid rise of sustainability issues to the very top of the European policy debate, where they are manifest in agendas such as the 20-20-20 goals, the Energy Efficiency Directive, the Roadmap 2050 and the European Commission's Communication on Renewables.

CEER has closely followed sustainable, efficient and green developments in line with functioning energy markets in the past and we should continue to play a decisive role in these European discussions in the future.

3.3.2. New Infrastructure

Regulators will continue to follow closely the negotiations on the Connecting Europe Facility and the draft Regulation on Energy Infrastructure. The development, and subsequent implementation, of provisions to improve Europe's energy infrastructure is of major interest to regulators, and to their core regulatory tasks both at national and EU level.

3.3.3. Market Integrity

While REMIT, both in the run-up to its adoption and in its implementation, has required the dedication of significant amounts of resources by CEER and ACER, regulators have also worked on related fields such as MiFID and MAD developments and the prevention of VAT fraud in the energy sector. The cluster of topics around market integrity and financial regulation will be a growing field, and we should continue to act as a provider of the regulatory point of view in political discussions and to support implementation, with a focus on the regional and national level.



3.4. INTERNATIONAL WORK

CEER has been active in developing its relations with non-EU regulators, both through bilateral ties (as, for instance, with Russia and the US) and in the shape of regulatory associations (such as the ECRB, MEDREG or ICER).² Such networking and cooperation can, in terms of substance, relate to any regulatory area that is identified as common ground or a mutual field of interest between CEER and our partners.

Strengthening the cooperation of CEER with these institutions will continue to be a focus area for us.

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² ECRB: Energy Community Regulatory Board, MEDREG: Association of Mediterranean Regulators for Electricity and Gas, ICER: International Confederation of Energy Regulators



4. NEW CEER DOCUMENTS IN 2013

	Sector	Title	Description	Timeline of stakeholder involvement**						
#				2012	2013 Q1	2013 Q2	2013 Q3	2013 Q4	2014	
1	Customers	CEER Advice on Data Management for Better Retail Market Functioning (Technical and Customer/Prosumer Data)	CEER will develop advice on how data management should be developed in a future environment with smart metering and smart grid. CEER believes that it is vital for retail market functioning and customer protection that information and data exchange among stakeholders is efficient and safe.		start WS	PC	PH	end LF		
2	Customers	CEER Status Review on the Involvement of Consumer Organisations in the Regulatory Process	CEER will be mapping the interactions of NRAs with organisations representing the interests of energy customers, collecting best practices describing how NRAs interact with consumer bodies and involve them in the regulatory process. This work is very valuable element in giving substance to the CEER customer strategy to involve stakeholders from the consumer side in our regulatory work.	start			end	LF		
3	Customers	CEER Status Review of Regulation on Smart Metering, Including an Assessment of Roll-Out	A review of how smart metering functionalities are handled and how the relating economic and customer assessments are made is an important aspect relating to reliability and customer empowerment.	start			end	LF		
4	Customers	CEER Advice on DSO Prosumer / Consumer Services, with a Focus on Connection/Disconnection, Service Activation/De- activation, and Maintenance	CEER aims to look at areas that have not been the focus of previous work. This area concerns DSO services that are also among the indicators developed by ERGEG in 2010. These services are among the key processes where the customer interacts with the stakeholders in the energy market and is a key aspect of reliability and quality of service.		start WS	PC		PH LF	end	
5	Customers	CEER Status Review of Customer access to the cost of energy and efficiency schemes	Customers are entitled to clear information on the cost of their energy, on current and past consumption patterns, to clear and simple contracts, transparent prices and energy efficiency schemes. Current practices in this field will be reviewed.	start			end	LF		



	Sector	Title	Description	Timeline of stakeholder involvement**						
#				2012	2013 Q1	2013 Q2	2013 Q3	2013 Q4	2014	
6	Cross- sectoral	Joint CEER/ACER Market Monitoring Report on the Internal Electricity and Natural Gas Markets	This monitoring report will include, in particular, the retail prices of electricity and natural gas, access to the network including access of electricity produced from RES, and compliance with the provisions on consumer rights laid down in Directives 2009/72 and 2009/73/EC.		start			end		
7	Cross- sectoral	CEER Status Review on the Transposition of Unbundling Requirements for TSOs and DSOs	Unbundling is one of the pillars of the 3rd Package and an indispensable prerequisite for the proper functioning of the internal energy market. This report aims to share information on the certification of TSOs and the implementation of new DSO unbundling rules.		start			end		
8	Electricity	CEER Status Review on Blackout Prevention and Restoration Planning	Existing national concepts of blackout prevention and restoration planning will be analysed, weaknesses identified and recommendations for improvements developed.		start			end FF		
9	Electricity	CEER Advice on the Annual Update of QoS Data	The 5th Benchmarking Report on Quality of Supply (2011) contains data from 1999-2010. As quality indicators of the electricity grids in European countries will be monitored continuously in future, a specific method and process need to be developed and applied.		start			end		
10	Electricity	CEER Status Review on European Regulatory Approaches Enabling Smart Grids Solutions ("Smart Regulation")	In future, smart distribution systems will become more and more important. Therefore CEER will analyse current national smart grid models. In particular, smart grid technology aspects which will make electricity grids more cost-effective will be studied.		start		ws	end		
11	Electricity	Guidelines of Good Practice on Demand Side Management: Realising the Energy Efficiency and Wider Services Potential	Based on NRA experience, case studies of best practice in Europe will be compiled, allowing the development of a series of best practice recommendations for Member States.		start PC	WS		end FF		



	Sector	Title	Description	Timeline of stakeholder involvement**						
#				2012	2013 Q1	2013 Q2	2013 Q3	2013 Q4	2014	
12	Electricity	CEER Report on Flexibility Tools for Future Electricity Markets	The EU generation scenario is dramatically changing due to the high deployment of RES systems. Also the regulation has to face new challenges in allowing a more flexible management of the power systems. In particular storage devices need to be integrated into the market design and require proper regulation. The proposed work aims at providing clear information on how flexibility is achieved in the national markets and how flexibility tools (including DSM and storage devices) are being regulated.		start			end PC		
13	Gas	CEER Monitoring Report on the LNG Transparency Template and the Consistency of European LNG Provisions with Future Network Codes	A monitoring exercise will be performed taking into consideration current 3rd Package LNG provisions. In particular, the implementation of transparency requirements in national systems, through the transparency template recently developed by GLE and CEER, will be assessed. If necessary, recommendations for improvements will be communicated to LSOs. Later on, an assessment of the consistency between the provisions of the future network codes and the 3rd Package LNG provisions will be carried out. If this reveals shortcomings, CEER could propose actions so as to fill the regulatory gap.		start		MF	end		
14	Gas	CEER Compliance Monitoring Report on the Implementation of Transparency Rules according to Art. 19 Regulation (EC) 715/200	The 3rd Package brought in new legally binding transparency requirements for natural gas storage facilities. CEER will monitor compliance with these requirements and satisfaction of storage users. The basis for this report is laid in a survey in Q3 2012, where storage system operators, storage users and NRAs provided input.		start		MF	end		
15	Gas	CEER Status Review of the Implementation of the GGPSSO for CAM and CMP for Storage	CEER has been working on improving the basis upon which the gas storage market functions, including the development of voluntary guidelines and several status reviews. In 2013, the implementation of the latest voluntary guidelines will be assessed. CEER will develop a questionnaire to assess the level of implementation of the Guidelines of Good Practice for Storage System Operators (GPSSO) regarding CAM and CMP for storage. The questionnaire will be addressed to storage system operators, storage users and NRAs. CEER will prepare a status report based on the questionnaire's results.		start		MF	end		



	Sector	Title	Description	Timeline of stakeholder involvement**						
#				2012	2013 Q1	2013 Q2	2013 Q3	2013 Q4	2014	
16	Gas	CEER Monitoring Report on the Implementation of the Gas Target Model	At the 18th meeting of the Madrid Forum (September 2010), European energy regulators were mandated to elaborate a gas target model (GTM) for Europe in close consultation with stakeholders. This has been achieved through a process that included a call for evidence, five workshops and a public consultation. The final GTM developed included a series of recommendations to achieve the goal of market integration. This will be followed up in 2013 with a monitoring exercise that will assess implementation of these recommendations.		start		MF	end		
17	Gas	CEER Advice on Auctions and Network Development Plans as Mechanisms for the Identification and Allocation of Incremental Capacity	The aim of this task is to develop a clear view of how to assess the need for incremental capacity based on auctions and network development plans. It takes into account the results of the Gas Target Model public consultation, the legislative proposal on energy infrastructure adopted by the European Commission in October 2011 as well as results from the network code process based on the FG CAM. In 2012, CEER undertakes a public consultation on how to identify and integrate new capacity based on market demand and coordinated market procedures. Based on the result of the consultation and the outcome of the 2012 work, further work will be undertaken in 2013 if and where necessary. Being aware of the importance of this issue in general, CEER is developing an integrated proposal considering the work on the network code for capacity allocation, Energy Infrastructure Package discussions, the Ten Year Network Development Plans (TYNDP) as well as CEER work on open seasons.		start		MF	end		
18	Gas	Revision of the CEER Guidelines of Good Practice on Open Season Procedures (GGPOS)	The voluntary Guidelines of Good Practice on Open Season Procedures (OS) were initially published in 2006. Since then, several open seasons have taken place all over Europe and the overall situation in the markets has changed, not least due to the entry into force of the 3rd Package. In 2011, CEER assessed the experience with open seasons and is now going to adapt the guidelines in line with these results. Being aware of the links with other ongoing work, CEER will ensure that an integrated approach is taken. CEER will adapt the existing Guidelines of Good Practice on Open Season Procedures to the overall changed market situation.		start	PC	MF	end		



** The timelines displayed here show the forecast plan for 2013 at the time of publication of this document. For updated indications, please refer to the monthly CEER electronic newsletter.

- PC public consultation
- PH public hearing
- WS workshop
- FF Florence Forum
- MF Madrid Forum
- LF London Forum