

CEER conference champions the customers' voice in the energy infrastructure and energy efficiency debate

- **Regulators call for efficient infrastructure investment and no money-wasting**
- **CEER seeks to build a 2020 customer vision of Europe's energy markets**
- **Swiss regulator joins CEER's ranks**

CEER's conferenceⁱ (today), in Brussels, attracted 24 renowned speakers (notably Commissioner Oettinger and two European Parliament Rapporteursⁱⁱ, Mr Correia and Turmes) and over 250 delegates. The conference had 2 core themes – Energy Infrastructure and Energy Efficiency.

A lively panel discussion (chaired by Philip Lowe, Director General, DG ENER) looked towards the goal of an internal energy market by 2014. There was a session dedicated to changing customer behavior in favour of energy efficiency, which began with an address from Mr Claude Turmes (Rapporteur of the Energy Efficiency Directive) who was absolutely passionate about the need to embrace energy efficiency.

Regulators call for efficient infrastructure investment and no money-wasting

Welcoming the Energy Infrastructure proposals, CEER President, Lord Mogg emphasised how it aligns with the 3rd Package:

"The Energy Infrastructure proposals are an opportunity to make sure that we have the infrastructure to deliver our sustainability and security of supply goals together with our competitiveness goal".

He added *"We should build on the 3rd Package, not replace it. The Ten Year Network Development Plan (TYNDP) should be at the core of identifying Projects of Common Interest. Regulators should be able to ensure that individual investments are made efficiently and that money is not wasted".*

CEER seeks to build a 2020 customer vision of Europe's energy markets

At the conference, CEER launched both its 2011 Annual Report and its 2012 Work Programme. The latter embeds a new "customer-focus" approach into CEER's work.

Revealing how CEER will further champion customers' interests, Lord Mogg said:

"CEER seeks to place consumers at the heart of EU energy policy in general. We need to have a better understanding of customers' needs and wants. We will be looking to others to help inform our knowledge and we will listen to the voice of customers. During 2012, CEER will work to build a 2020 customer vision of Europe's energy markets in dialogue with stakeholders. We plan to hold a special event with stakeholders in June to launch our initial thinking."

Swiss regulator joins CEER's ranks

Lord Mogg positioned CEERⁱⁱⁱ as an important player in the external dimension of energy policy. *"ACER, as an EU Agency, can only comprise the regulators of the EU-27. CEER, an independent association of energy regulators, has chosen a wider geographical coverage, to promote sound regulatory practices and competitive markets within and beyond Europe's borders. Given that Switzerland is at the heart of Europe's electricity grid, we are delighted today to welcome Elcom, the Swiss regulator, to CEER's ranks as an Observer."*

Brussels, 25 January 2012

Ends
(see Note for Editors on next page)

Notes for Editors:

ⁱ The Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER) held its first annual conference on 25 January 2012 in Brussels. The two themes of the conference were Energy Infrastructure and Energy Efficiency. See the conference programme, presentations and photos of the conference at:

http://www.energy-regulators.eu/portal/page/portal/EER_HOME/EER_WORKSHOP/CEER-ERGEG%20EVENTS/CEER_CONFERENCE_2012

ⁱⁱ Mr Antonio Fernando Correia de Campos is Rapporteur of the Energy Infrastructure Regulation. Mr Claude Turmes is Rapporteur of the Energy Efficiency Directive.

ⁱⁱⁱ The Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER) is the voice of Europe's national regulators of electricity and gas at EU and international level. CEER works closely with, and supports the work of, the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER). CEER has 29 Members (the energy regulators of the 27 EU Member States plus Iceland and Norway. As and from 1 February 2012, the Swiss energy regulator (Elcom) joins CEER's ranks as a non-voting Observer. See www.energy-regulators.eu

Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER)

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