



EUROPEAN ALLIANCE TO
SAVE ENERGY
Creating an Energy-Efficient Europe

To the kind attention of **Algirdas Saudargas MEP**
Cc: Members of ITRE Committee

Brussels, 13 April 2015

Dear Mr Saudargas MEP,
Dear Members of ITRE Committee,

RE: Energy Efficiency as a key pillar in the European Energy Security Strategy (EEES)

We are convinced that the decisions the EU will take in the next months over the priorities of its energy policy will be crucial to improve Europe's competitiveness and the well-being of its citizens. We are therefore pleased that the European Parliament is taking the issue of Energy security very seriously and that a significant discussion is taking place around your important report. In this context, we respectfully wish to express our views concerning the role that energy efficiency should play in such a discussion.

We noticed that in the current version of the report, energy efficiency does not emerge as pillar of Europe energy security strategy, even if the moderation of energy demand is briefly mentioned. As providers of energy efficiency goods and services in Europe, we believe that energy efficiency should be central in the European energy security strategy; the EEES report is an important opportunity for the European Parliament to show political vision by ensuring that the potential of energy efficiency as the single most cost-effective means to reduce dependence on energy imports and increase Europe energy security is recognized.

From a business perspective, increased energy security through moderating energy demand impacts on economic growth and ultimately on job creation in the European Union in these four ways:

- For every 1% improvement in energy efficiency, EU gas imports fall by 2.6%¹.
- Cost effective energy savings equal to 41% of final EU energy use are possible by 2030. The costs of this investment would be offset by savings of €1tr-€2tr during 2020-2030².

¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/energy-efficiency>

² BMU and Fraunhofer ISI (2012) Contribution of energy efficiency measures to climate protection within the EU until 2050 (www.isi.fraunhofer.de/isi-media/docs/e/de/publikationen/BMU_Policy_Paper_20121022.pdf)

info@euase.eu • www.euase.eu • @EUASE



- Targeted efficiency measures can deliver material reductions in short and medium-term gas dependence³. For example, unlocking the potential of behavioral efficiency will save European utility customers 12 terawatt-hours (TWh) of energy per year, equal to €2.4 billion every year⁴.
- With average electricity and gas prices having increased across Europe by more than 30% and 40%, respectively, in the past 10 years⁵ more needs to be done to manage their impact on competitiveness. The best way to achieve this is through the promotion of greater energy efficiency, which allows energy intensive and non-energy intensive industries to produce more using lower energy inputs – thus managing overall costs.

Energy efficiency is the real driver for Europe’s energy productivity, and the recently launched “Energy Productivity Index” shows once again how Europe could double its current level of energy efficiency by deploying existing technology more ambitiously⁶.

Before rushing decisions into costly infrastructures and an anachronistic energy security carbon-centred strategy, the EU should instead strengthen its energy efficiency policy framework, thus favoring private investments and activities which would involve many sectors, from buildings, to transport, appliances and industrial processes.

We urge therefore you to put energy efficiency at the heart of Europe’s energy security strategy by confirming, first of all, that the Parliament 2014 call for a 40% final energy savings target (equivalent to 500 Mtoe by 2030) is still considered an essential measure to reduce energy imports, and increase Europe’s political and economic stability and security. This would set the necessary level of ambition to increase security by removing dependency on gas imports in the next decade and create the framework for investment and growth of European energy efficiency technologies, products and services.

We are at your disposal to support you to unlock the European energy demand reduction potential for the good of European citizens and businesses.

Yours sincerely,

Harry Verhaar
Chairman of the European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE)
Global Head of Public and Government Affairs
Philips Lighting

Tony Robson
Chief Executive Officer
Knauf Insulation

³ EU natural gas imports by country of origin (2012): 31.9% Russia, 29.4% Norway, 13.8% Algeria, 8.7% Qatar, 3.4% Nigeria, 2% Libya, 0.8% Trinidad, 0.5% Egypt, 9.5% others.

⁴ “Unlocking the Potential of Behavioural Energy Efficiency in Europe”, Opower 2014 (www.opower.com/beepotential/#emea)

⁵ Data from Eurostat

⁶ Ecofys, The Lisbon Council, Quintel Intelligence, Philips “The 2015 Energy Productivity and Economic Prosperity Index: How Efficiency Will Drive Growth, Create Jobs and Spread Wellbeing Throughout Society”, Kornelis Blok, Paul Hofheinz and John Kerkhoven, February 2015



Bertrand Deprez
Vice-President, EU Government Affairs
Schneider Electric



Nick Mabey
Chief Executive Officer
E3G



Stuart Robertson
Chief Executive Officer
Crupe



Niels Bjorn Christansen
Chief Executive Officer
Danfoss



Johannes Meier
Chief Executive Officer
European Climate Foundation



Gene Murtagh
Chief Executive Officer
Kingspan



Catia Bastioli
President
Kyoto Club



Alex Laskey
President and Co-founder
Opower



Roland Ullmann
Director Industry Affairs - Building Automation
Siemens

About the European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE)

EU-ASE was established in December 2010 by some of Europe's leading multinational companies. The Alliance creates a platform from which our companies (1E, Crupe, Danfoss, Ingersoll Rand, Kingspan, Knauf Insulation, Opower, Philips, Schneider Electric and Siemens) can join with politicians and thought leaders to ensure the voice of energy efficiency is heard from across the business and political community.

EU-ASE members have operations across the 28 Member States of the European Union, employ over 150.000 people in Europe and have an aggregated annual turnover of €70 billion.

Members



Honorary Members

Bendt Bendtsen

Member of the European Parliament
(Denmark, EPP)

Bas Eickhout

Member of the European Parliament
(Netherlands, Greens)

Pieter Liese

Member of the European Parliament
(Germany, EPP)

Kathleen Van Brempt

Member of the European Parliament
(Belgium, S&D)

info@euase.eu • www.euase.eu • [@EU-ASE](https://twitter.com/EU-ASE)

