

EU's Energy Efficiency Plan raises concerns among a new Alliance of business, civil society and political leaders

Brussels, March 8, 2011: Today the European Commission published its much awaited **Plan for Energy Efficiency**; a new plan that aspires to put the EU back on track with its energy efficiency objectives.

The **European Alliance to Save Energy** (EU-ASE), a newly formed alliance of some of Europe's prominent energy efficiency advocates including business leaders, politicians and campaigners, raises concerns on the absence of a commitment to binding targets and to any new legislation in the plan.

Commenting on the plan on the day of the official launch of EU-ASE in Brussels today, Monica Frassoni, the President of EU-ASE said:

"All EU institutions recognize that the European Union is falling dangerously short of its 2020 energy efficiency target; it is therefore hard to understand why this new Energy Efficiency Plan lacks the ambition or concrete measures needed to put Europe back on track. The simple fact of removing the word 'Action' from the title, will add to stakeholders' concerns."

"Europe's energy efficiency industries are currently some of the best in the world, but without an ambitious policy agenda on energy efficiency for Europe, we risk being left behind as others regions take the lead," explained Alliance's Chairman, Tony Robson, Group CEO of Knauf Insulation. He continued, **"EU-ASE Members' have the technology today to deliver far more than a 20% energy efficiency target by 2020, but they will stay on the shelf without an ambitious policy agenda. EU-ASE Members are ready and able to help the European Commission deliver jobs, improve energy security and deep cuts in carbon dioxide emissions at little or no cost, but to do so we need more ambition and concrete measures."**

EU-ASE was established at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in December 2010. Founders include leading European companies such as 1E, Danfoss, Knauf Insulation, Schneider Electric and Siemens, and prominent NGOs and foundations including the European Climate Foundation and Kyoto Club.

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Notes to the Editor

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

EU-ASE was established in late 2010 in response to the urgent need for stronger action on energy efficiency in Europe. We are in the process of bringing together vanguard solution-providers for energy efficiency, prominent European politicians, thought-leaders and campaigners from across Europe to work as a united force to show Europe's policy makers that by advancing energy efficiency in Europe, in particular by supporting existing technologies, we can rapidly achieve a healthier economy, a cleaner environment and greater energy security. We will be a leading voice in the energy efficiency revolution. www.euase.eu

Founding members

- Tony Robson – Group CEO, Knauf Insulation, Chair
- Hubert Keiber - Chief Executive Officer, Siemens Industry's Division Siemens Industry, Inc, Vice-Chair
- Claude Breining – Head of European Affairs & Standardization Strategy, Schneider Electric, Vice-Chair
- Niels Bjorn Christansen – Chief Executive Officer, Danfoss
- Sumir Karayi – CEO, 1E
- Sergio Andreis – Director, Kyoto Club
- Patty Fong – Chief Operating Officer European Climate Foundation

Honorary Members

- Bendt Bendtsen – Member of European Parliament, Denmark
- Lena Ek – Member of European Parliament, Sweden
- Fiona Hall – Member of European Parliament , UK
- Peter Liese – Member of European Parliament, Germany
- Claude Turmes – Member of European Parliament, Luxembourg

Sister Association:

- The Alliance to Save Energy – www.ase.org

EU-ASE is co-host of **EE Global, the Energy Efficiency Global Forum**, in Brussels from April 12-14, which is a part of the EU Sustainable Week program and is co-chaired by Commissioner Oettinger. For more information see <http://eeglobalforum.org/>

EU-ASE is a member of the **Coalition for Energy Savings**, a vast platform of trade associations, NGOs and Foundations active in Brussels.