Joint Statement

Energy Roadmap 2050: Neither Hot nor Cool

Heating and cooling represents 43%, and by far the largest share, of the final energy consumption in Europe. Although this sector is not only huge in size but also already provides low and no-carbon solutions it has largely been overlooked in all the scenarios presented in the Energy Roadmap 2050. As a result, the Roadmap fails to deliver a coherent and future-proof vision. In addition to achieving carbon-neutrality, a future proofing strategy implies affordability for all citizens and positive effects on local welfare including the creation of employment.

The Roadmap rightly acknowledges that *renewable heating and cooling is vital to decarbonisation* and that *a cost-optimal policy choice between insulating buildings and systematically using waste-heat* needs to be found. Yet, a thorough analysis of the heating and cooling sector is omitted.

Therefore, to meet most efficiently the European target of an almost entirely decarbonised energy system by 2050, the signatories to this statement call not only for a further analysis of heating and cooling, but also that it is put at the forefront of the current and future policy debate.

Mapping out the future of the European energy system requires a more holistic approach involving all forms of energy (i.e. heat, transport and electricity) and fully reflects their interdependencies. Neglecting the production and use of thermal energy inevitably leads to distorted results, in particular to a complete reliance on electricity in decarbonising the energy sector, leaving aside possibilities to simply meet heating and cooling demands by direct use of renewable and waste heat sources. As a consequence, the European Union would have to rely even on potential technological breakthroughs such as carbon capture and storage and massive grid reinforcement.

For the successful development of a *post-2020 energy policy framework*, Europe needs to understand thermal energy flows within and across sectors, i.e. how buildings are heated and cooled, in which form heat is used to drive industrial processes and how thermal energy can generate electricity.

Up to now a systematic data and information collection on heating and cooling markets is not available at European level. As a result there is insufficient adequate analysis and modeling on which policymaking must be based. To remedy this unsatisfactory and unacceptable situation, the European Union must obtain urgently the relevant statistics, enhance analytical capacities and reassess future scenarios.

While the European Union is about to embark on deciding its future energy policy, the signatories of this joint statement urge the European Institutions and the Member States to adopt, and to swiftly execute, an ambitious European heating and cooling policy. To achieve a better overall energy integration, replete with significant economic opportunities, political measures and infrastructure funding must be directed towards local low and no-carbon solutions already available today. Rethinking the energy system can only bring benefits if more attention is paid to local and decentralised resources and if action is taken on heating and cooling!

Associations supporting this statement:

AEBIOM is the European Association representing the bioenergy sector in Europe. The main aim of AEBIOM is to develop the market for sustainable bioenergy such as bio heat, electricity from biomass and biofuels (including biogas).

Cecodhas Housing Europe is the Federation of social, cooperative and public housing, a network of national and regional social housing federations

CEWEP is the European umbrella association of Waste-to-Energy Plants. They thermally treat household and similar waste (not suitable for recycling) and transform it into energy, which is delivered to citizens and industry.

COGEN Europe is the European Association for the Promotion of Cogeneration. Its principal goal is to work towards the wider use of cogeneration in Europe for a sustainable energy future

EFIEES is the European Federation of Intelligent Energy Efficiency Services, represents private companies (Energy Efficiency Services Companies, EESCs) providing an overall energy management service to end-user.

EGEC is the European Geothermal Energy Council, an international non-profit association, whose aim is to promote the use of geothermal energy in Europe.

EHI, the Association of the European Heating Industry, represents and promotes the common interests of 35 market leading companies and 13 national associations in the European thermal comfort sector, which produce advanced technologies for heating in buildings, including: boilers, burners, heat pumps, micro CHP, solar thermal, geothermal, biomass and radiators.

European Heat Pump Association (EHPA) represents stakeholders from all parts of the heat pump industries value chain in Europe. Its main target is the technologies proper recognition in European legislation and the dissemination of related information

Energy Cities is the European Association of local authorities inventing their energy future.

ESTIF is the European Solar Thermal Industry Federation representing the whole value chain of solar thermal from research and testing to manufacturers and service providers

Euroheat & Power is the international association representing the district heating and cooling (DHC) sector in Europe and beyond.