

EREF Press Release

National Energy and Climate Plans: The European Commission Calls for Higher Ambition and More Detailed Measures.

Brussels, 19 June 2019

The European Commission published yesterday a Communication and Member State-specific Recommendations for each country's National Energy and Climate Plans. Each country is producing a plan which lists its energy targets, methodologies and policies and measures to be achieved or implemented by 2030.

Together, the plans are meant to have the EU source 32% of its final energy consumption from renewables. The plans in their current forms would not reach this target.

EREF wholeheartedly supports the Commission's call for Member States to "step up efforts to achieve the [...] 2030 energy and climate goal" by adopting higher targets, developing more detailed policies and measures underpinned by funding where needed and working further on the underlying data of the plans to allow progress to be adequately monitored.

The Commission makes reference to a number of measures which EREF encourages Member States to consider for their plans such as promoting self-consumption and renewable energy communities, facilitating the uptake of power purchase agreements and simplifying administrative procedures.

EREF welcomes the suggestion by the Commission that Member States assess the adequacy of their electricity system vis-à-vis the expected significant development of renewable energy in the next decade as this will be crucial in bringing about the energy transition.

EREF invites the Council to discuss and closely consider the Commission Communication and Recommendations and engage in how they can enhance their National Plans so as to jointly help the EU achieve its 2030 energy and climate goals.

Dörte Fouquet, EREF Director, says: "Renewable development is, besides efficiency, the main driver for reaching the priorities proposed in the EU's Strategic Agenda for 2024 which

EREF a federation of national renewable energy associations from EU Member States represents all renewable energy sectors at EU institutions. Its objective is to promote the interests of independent power, fuel and heat production from renewable sources and to establish non-discriminatory access to the European energy market. EREF strives to create, maintain and further develop stable and reliable framework conditions for renewable energy sources.

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will be debated at the next European Council meeting in Brussels (20th and 21st June 2019). Renewables are cheap, environmentally friendly and beneficial for the climate. They provide sustainable, secure and affordable energy, new qualified jobs and allow citizens to become directly involved in Europe's energy system transformation. Not banking on strong renewable deployment policies and the strength of citizens and communities would mean sheltering fossil fuels and nuclear power for the next decade."

For more information on this matter, please contact

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