

**Joint Statement regarding:**  
**National Dialogue Event: *The European Green Deal and German EPBD Implementation***  
**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020, Bundestag, Berlin**

### Context

On the occasion of a stakeholder dialogue held in the Bundestag, Berlin, a wide range of stakeholders engaged in energy efficiency policy and delivery gathered to debate and exchange on the contents of the **European Green Deal** and the implications it will have for the **energy performance of the German building stock**. The dialogue also covered perceptions about the effectiveness of existing policies and, specifically, the **implementation of the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)**.

Underscoring the dialogue is the shared sense of the need to restore **Germany's standing as a leader in climate and energy efficiency policies** at a critical political juncture for Europe. Recent policy developments have produced new incentives for climate protection, but the measures fall short of what is necessary to reach federal and EU targets. This lack of ambition is undermining the key role buildings should be playing in Germany's energy transition. The European Commission's Green Deal strategy represents an **opportunity for Germany** to engage with enhanced ambition at EU level and to use this as impetus to drastically improve the energy performance of its building stock. The approaching **German Council presidency of the EU**, which will coincide with **COP26 in Glasgow**, provides additional opportunities for renewed German ambition and leadership on energy efficiency measures, policies and legislation.

### Identified Issues Affecting Energy Efficiency in Buildings:

1. There is a **lack of consultation culture** during the formation of policy. Crucially, there has been no consultative dialogue with stakeholders ahead of the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2020 submission deadline for the German Long-Term Renovation Strategy (LTRS).
2. **Existing incentive schemes for building renovation were insufficient** to initiate a real market transformation; the effect of recently increased funding and the proposed carbon price remains unclear.
3. There was **concern** among participants that homeowners in Germany will begin to engage in a **change of heating fuel or heating equipment but refrain from well-designed deeper energy renovation**
4. **Uncertainty** about the long-term perspective of the renovation market contributes to **shortage of skilled workers**.
5. **Lack of demand for independent energy advisors** to guide and facilitate homeowner confidence when taking decisions to engage in energy renovation.

### Ideas to Stimulate Action

The participants at the event made several positive suggestions about how to address the identified issues and thus get Germany back on track to be a leader once again in energy efficiency policies:

1. Launch a **stakeholder consultation** for the German Long-Term Renovation Strategy ASAP before 10<sup>th</sup> March, with enough time to consider recommendations, and turn existing open stakeholder platforms on the energy efficiency of buildings into real dialogues and enablers of policy and business model innovation.
2. Take a strategic and **holistic approach to the building sector's 2050 decarbonisation targets**, anchored in a thorough understanding of the instrumental role of energy efficiency for a) facilitating renewables integration, b) enabling other sectors to decarbonise and c) improving people's health and well-being.
3. Construct a **strategic roadmap for building energy efficiency renovation** that provides guidance at policy level and at individual homeowner level. Such a roadmap should be structured in a segment-based approach, and articulate incentives and binding regulatory elements over time. This long-term perspective will be essential to build market confidence for investors.
4. **Use the planned German reform of incentive programmes ("BEG")** to create truly attractive and accessible deep renovation incentives for all building owners incl. landlords and commercial property owners, and increasingly measure and reward post-renovation performance.
5. **Ambitiously implement relevant EU directives and position Germany as a champion for the Green Deal.**

### Conclusion

The organisers of the event, EuroACE, The European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings and DENEFF, the German Business Initiative for Energy Efficiency commend the ideas noted above and urge decision makers, at all levels of governance in Germany, to take them into account and to commit to regaining the leadership role that Germany has played in the past.

## PROGRAMME

### National Dialogue Event: *The European Green Deal and German EPBD Implementation* Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020, Bundestag, Berlin

#### 10.30-11.20 SESSION 1 - The Green Deal & Stakeholder Engagement in EPBD Implementation

Moderator – Adrian JOYCE

- *Presentation 1: 'An Introduction to the European Green Deal'*  
**Pieter de Pous**, Senior Policy Advisor, E3G Berlin Office
- *Presentation 2: 'Implications of the European Green Deal for Energy Efficiency in Buildings'*  
**Céline Carré**, Head of Public Affairs, Saint-Gobain
- *Panel discussion. Above speakers joined by:*  
**Henning Ellermann**, General Manager & Head of Energy Efficiency in Buildings, DENEFF  
**Volker Weinmann**, Political, Environmental and Associations Officer, DAIKIN Germany
- *Audience Q&A*

#### 11.20-12.30 SESSION 2 – Tools for Effective Implementation: financing, ambition & quality assurance

Moderator – Adrian JOYCE

- *Presentation 3: 'Investor perspective on advancing energy efficiency in Germany'*  
**Murray Birt**, Senior ESG Strategist, DWS
- *Presentation 4: 'Strategy for Renovation: how deep should we go?'*  
**Prof. Dr.-Ing. Andreas Holm**, FIW Munich
- *Panel discussion. Above speakers joined by:*  
**Sune Tobias Grollov**, Senior Policy Advisor, Global Public Affairs, VELUX  
**Dr. Thomas Engelke**, Team Leader Energy and Buildings, vzbv (Federation of German Consumer Organisations)
- *Audience Q&A*
- *Closing remarks – Adrian Joyce (EuroACE)*

**Link to event presentations:** <https://euroace.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/EuroACE-DENEFF-Germany-Event-Slides-Website.pdf>

#### **About EuroACE**

EuroACE represents Europe's leading companies involved with the manufacture, distribution and installation of energy saving goods and services for buildings. EuroACE members employ around 200,000 people in these activities in Europe and have around 900 production facilities and office locations. The mission of EuroACE is to work together with the EU institutions to help Europe move towards a more efficient use of energy in buildings, thereby contributing to Europe's commitments on climate change, energy security and economic growth.

#### **About DENEFF**

The German Business Initiative for Energy Efficiency (DENEFF) is the strong voice of the energy efficiency industry in Germany, which employs around 600,000 people. An association with more than 180 members ranging from product manufacturers to service providers, from start-ups to large corporates, DENEFF unites frontrunner companies in the field of energy efficiency and integrated renewables for buildings and industrial processes. DENEFF advocates for an effective and ambitious energy efficiency regulation in Germany and at EU level and engages relevant stakeholders to jointly overcome market barriers and foster innovation.