

A strong mandate to increase energy efficiency in buildings

The Report on the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) adopted by the European Parliament provides welcome improvements to the European Commission proposal. Co-legislators now need to ensure the final Directive is in line with the EU Renovation Wave’s objectives.

A year after the start of the Russian aggression in Ukraine, Europe is finally making progress on structural measures to reduce its dependency on fossil fuels and durably shelter its citizens and businesses from energy price hikes. Following the agreement on the Energy Efficiency Directive last week, the adoption of the Parliament’s report on the EPBD is another step in the right direction.

The European Parliament’s Report is a balanced position, bringing cautious improvements to the Commission Proposal. The text maintains a clear roadmap for owners and industry players for the next 10 years, agreeing to introduce Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) and a more reliable, rescaled Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) scheme. A few important provisions have also been improved: the roll out of the Zero Emission Building standard is slightly accelerated and the text now encourages the uptake of new financial instruments.

“The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive is the final cornerstone of the Fit-for-55 package. It is our opportunity to ensure that Europeans have buildings that are decarbonised, energy efficient and healthy. The position adopted today in the Parliament provides for a strong framework for MEPS and EPCs, which in turn helps create confidence in the renovation market. We’re ready to ramp up as industry to deliver.”, **said Julie Kjestrup, President of EuroACE and Head of Policy and Thought Leadership at VELUX.**

“This successful vote gives a strong mandate to the European Parliament’s Rapporteur and Shadows for the upcoming trilogue negotiations. The ambition level should be maintained to bring buildings into the 21st century – the promotion of new digital tools, and upgrades in both active and passive technologies is the right path to make buildings central actors of the energy system.” **said Bertrand Deprez, Vice-President of EuroACE and VP EU Government Affairs at Schneider Electric.**

“The co-negotiators should now make sure the EPBD has the means to drive up renovation rates and achieve the Renovation Wave’s objectives. Europe cannot afford to lose another decade when it comes to energy efficiency in buildings.” **said Adrian JOYCE, Secretary General of EuroACE.**

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For further information

Adrian JOYCE, Secretary General
+32 (0) 2 639 10 10
adrian.joyce@euroace.org
www.euroace.org

About EuroACE – Energy Efficient Buildings

EuroACE represents Europe’s leading companies involved with the manufacture, distribution and installation of energy saving goods and services for buildings. EuroACE members employ more than 220,000 people in these activities in Europe and have over 1,100 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.

EuroACE Members (2023)

