

CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL ?

Diversity leading to security

10 October 2017, 9:00-17:00h

EU Thon Hotel, Brussels



9:15 - 9:30

Opening of the congress

9:30 - 10:45

The Clean Energy Package : the best answers on the right questions ?

The Clean Energy Package is the biggest review of energy-related legislation ever !

The objective is to create a coherent package that addresses simultaneously the European energy and climate challenges. A real paradigm shift called the “energy transition” is taking place, in which the whole energy system is decentralizing with the potential to shift the power towards citizens and energy customers. Classical business models are under pressure, with margins melting away, and new actors enter the arena.

Will market-based services bring all the answers, equally to long term challenges ? Is a major shift of competences on energy distribution to the European level the optimal way to tackle all issues in very diverse national markets ? Will the local grid infrastructures find the necessary financial means and creativity to guarantee the future security of supply ?

10:45-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-12:30

A new electricity market design : offering a real chance to citizens and local actors ?

The proposed changes in the market design for the electricity market are announced as putting the citizens at the centre of the future energy stage. However, the new rules of the game are more European, more complex and with the market as sole ruler of the game.

Will active customers still profit from their investments in sustainable solutions, in a more complex environment ? Will vulnerable customers pay the bill ? Will the electricity-focused legal framework allow local actors, close to local resources and customers, to develop integrated energy solutions that combine electricity, renewable gases and district heating ? Will innovative new actors survive the heat of the game ?

12:30-13:30 Lunch break



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13.30-14:45

Sustainability first :

Renewable monocultures versus 'sectoral integration' Individual choice versus system perspective ?

Relying on markets to select the renewable technologies, with little to no room for technology-specific support and measures targeting local resources, risks to lead to renewable monocultures. Will a diversified technology answer – linked with sectoral integration – offer more guarantees for long term sustainable answers and competitive markets ?

A simple truth : energy that is not used, does not to have to be (re)generated. Not only in electrical applications, but equally in heating and transport. So how can individual choices be reconciled with energy-efficiency and cost-efficient energy systems ? Can collective solutions like district heating and social housing contribute to sustainability ? How will all citizens be stimulated to act, allowing personal preferences without losing comfort, and with attention for the long term system perspective ?

14:45-15:15 Coffee Break

15:15-16:30

Who needs energy infrastructures ? We have apps !

Digitalization makes it possible to address flexibility needs of active customers, and opens the door for service providers to develop automated and personalized services. For transmission and distribution grid operators, in close cooperation, it allows a more flexible and cost-efficient management of all grid assets, along with the opportunity to facilitate markets by making available relevant data to interested market parties. Local energy communities can develop in a myriad of physical or virtual forms. Who organizes and regulates customer consent on the use of his personal data ? My kingdom for an app !

16:30

CONCLUSIONS

