



# BRIEF NEWS

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## Citizens Energy Implementation Package

Following the publication of the Communication in March, the Commission published the cornerstone of the Citizens Energy Package (CEP) – the Implementation Package – on 30 April. The Package aims to protect vulnerable customers and those in energy poverty, ensure competitive retail markets, empower consumers, and support energy communities and self-consumption. It includes one report and four recommendations on:

- protecting vulnerable customers and during the gas phase-out: Supports households at risk of energy poverty through measures such as payment plans, debt advice and energy vouchers, while promoting energy efficiency, renewables and coordinated support for the natural gas phase-out.
- contractual terms and conditions of energy supply contracts: Proposes clearer and more standardised contract information to facilitate supplier switching, improve transparency and strengthen retail market competition.
- supplier risk management: Guides authorities and regulators on supplier risk management and market supervision to reduce the impact of supplier failures on consumers.
- energy communities and self-consumption: Aims to improve market access and reduced administrative barriers for energy communities and self-consumption. It is accompanied by an action plan to support citizen participation in renewable energy production and sharing.
- The report on electricity supply prices and flexibility in retail contracts examines how retail contracts and demand flexibility can incentivise consumers to shift consumption to periods of lower demand or higher renewable generation, while reducing costs and supporting system resilience.

Although non-binding, the Package will be followed by further CEP initiatives and recommendations this and next year, including on disconnection safeguards, energy poverty and standardised energy bill templates. A legislative proposal on EU consumer energy rights is expected in 2028.

CEDEC Working Group Energy Consumers analysed the Package and its potential implications on operators and suppliers during its meeting on 13 May (access the slides [here](#)) and will continue to monitor upcoming initiatives.

## Spotlight on: AccelerateEU – the Commission’s emergency plan to tackle the energy crisis

Adopted on 22 April in response to rising energy costs following the escalation in the Middle East and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, the AccelerateEU Plan aims to bring immediate relief to European industries and households, especially most vulnerable ones, while enabling energy independence. It is built around five pillars:

- strengthening EU coordination, including on gas storage, oil stock releases, refinery use and a new Fuel Observatory;
- protecting consumers and industry through temporary support measures, social tariffs, tax reductions and temporary State aid measures;
- accelerating home-grown clean energy, incl. heat pumps, geothermal, biomethane, renewable hydrogen and electrification;
- stepping up the energy system, including faster finalisation of the EU Grids Package and forthcoming proposals on network charges and taxation;
- boosting investment through ETS revenues, EU funds and new financing initiatives.

Forthcoming Commission measures in the coming months include a catalogue of measures on energy savings and system efficiency, the Electrification Action Plan (which would include the heating and cooling strategy, regretfully), and a legislative proposal on network charges and taxation, under which electricity cannot be taxed more than gas. Moreover, the Commission will adopt a binding electrification target and counter disincentives to electrification, while facilitating wider smart meter rollout, more flexible systems and regulatory incentives for network operators to invest in future-proof grids.

## European Grids Package: state of play

The past weeks marked a decisive phase for the European Grids Package. In the European Parliament, S&D Rapporteurs Niels Fuglsang (Permitting Framework) and Tsvetelina Penkova (TEN-E Revision) published draft reports on the two legislative proposals at the end of April. On permitting, the report broadly follows the Commission proposal while strengthening provisions on environmental exemptions, community engagement, digitalisation and grid connection obligations, while maintaining tacit approval provisions by DSOs for grid connection requests. On TEN-E, the report reinforces evidence-based planning, transparency and affordability, notably through stronger national planning instruments and sensitivity analyses within the central EU planning scenario.

Members of the ITRE energy committee in the Parliament, including the shadow rapporteurs, could table amendments till 11 May (for permitting) and 18 May (for TEN-E) respectively, ahead of which CEDEC met with several MEPs to present recommendations and concrete amendments. Parliamentary negotiations will now move towards compromise amendments, with ITRE Committee votes expected at the end of June on Permitting and in September on TEN-E.

In parallel, the Council prepared a fourth compromise text on both files, dated 11 May. On permitting, Member States propose limiting tacit administrative approval to intermediary permitting steps, while allowing longer deadlines and greater flexibility for exemptions and registration requirements for small-scale solar installations. On TEN-E, the text aligns more closely with Parliament by requiring sensitivity analyses and consideration of National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) in the central scenario. However, diverging Member State positions on the central scenario will be discussed at Coreper on 20 May, ahead of a final Council compromise expected in June. The European Commission aims to adopt the Grids Package before the end of this year.

## Digital Networks Act: state of play

The legislative work on the Digital Networks Act (DNA) is progressing steadily. Since the publication of the Commission proposal on 21 January 2026, both the Council and the European Parliament have focused primarily on technical examination of the file. In the Council, the Telecom Working Party has been meeting regularly since February for article-by-article discussions, including on scope and objectives, universal service, open internet, end-user rights, Single Passport provisions and, most recently, the general and final provisions of the proposal. A first Presidency progress report and political discussion are expected at the Telecom Council on 8–9 June. However, according to exchanges with Member States, a full Council General Approach is now increasingly expected only under the Latvian Presidency in the first half of 2027, rather than by the end of 2026.

In the European Parliament, the file has been assigned to the ITRE Committee, with Michał Kobosko (Renew) as rapporteur. Discussions in Parliament are also still at an early technical stage, with the Commission holding detailed explanatory sessions with MEPs and political groups. Current indications suggest that the draft report may only be presented in autumn 2026, due to the complexity and scale of the proposal. This creates an important advocacy window before summer, especially as major telecom incumbents are already actively lobbying on sensitive issues such as copper switch-off, ex ante regulation and spectrum harmonisation. Trilogue negotiations are expected in 2027.

## Revision of the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action Regulation

On 7 May, the second workshop on the revision of the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action Regulation brought together EU institutions, industry, civil society and energy stakeholders to discuss the future EU energy governance framework beyond 2030. Discussions focused on whether to maintain separate binding targets for renewable energy and energy efficiency or move towards a single “clean energy target” supported by system-wide indicators and KPIs.

Stakeholders broadly supported maintaining binding EU-level targets, interconnection objectives, investor predictability and the “energy efficiency first” principle. However, views diverged on a single clean energy target, with some supporting a technology-neutral approach while others warned it could weaken renewable energy ambitions. Discussions on KPIs highlighted indicators linked to electrification, fossil fuel phase-out, energy prices and investment conditions. In its concluding remarks, the Commission also referred to the ongoing public consultations on the post-2030 framework, which will be discussed at the next CEDEC Working Group Energy & Climate on 27 May.

## Upcoming meetings and events

- Working Group Energy & Climate – 27/04, 11:00–12:30: Focus on the public consultations related to the energy efficiency and renewable energy legal frameworks after 2030.
- Copenhagen Energy Infrastructure Forum – 21-22/05
- Florence Electricity Forum – 28-29/05
- CEDEC Board of Directors and General Assembly – 11/06 (Vienna)
- Platform Local Broadband – 08/07 (Berlin)