

An overview of 2030 projections and targets in Europe

The purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of:

- A. Renewables and GHG emission reduction targets included in the recently published EC framework on climate and energy¹, and comparing them with projections at the EU level of key recent studies and institutions
- B. key stakeholders' reactions to the EC communication

A. 2030 projections

Study	Year	% GHG reduction ²	% RES energy mix	% RES electricity mix
<i>EC Communication: A policy framework for climate and energy in the period from 2020 to 2030</i>	2014	40	27**	45**
European Institutions				
European Parliament ³	2014	40	30	
EC EU Energy Roadmap: Reference	2011	26	23.9**	40.5*
EC EU Energy Roadmap: Current Policy Initiatives		27.9	24.7**	43.7*
EC EU Energy Roadmap: Energy efficiency		40	27.6**	52.9*
EC EU Energy Roadmap: Diversified supply technologies		39	27.7**	51.2*
EC EU Energy Roadmap: High RES		40.6	31.2**	59.8*
EC EU Energy Roadmap: Delayed CCS		39.7	28**	51.7*
EC EU Energy Roadmap: Low nuclear scenario		38.4	28.8**	54.6*
Stakeholders				
WWF: Putting the EU on track for	2013	50	41**	65**

¹ In January 2014, the European Commission published a Communication for a policy framework for climate and energy in the period from 2020 to 2030

² Emission reductions across the economy compared to 1990 levels

³ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20140203IPR34510/html/MEPs-want-binding-2030-goals-for-CO2-emissions-renewables-and-energy-efficiency>

100% Renewable Energy				
BP Energy Outlook 2030 (OECD Europe)	2013			25*
Greenpeace: Energy [R]evolution Scenario (OECD Europe)	2012		46**	71*
Greenpeace: Energy [R]evolution: Reference (OECD Europe)			±13-18**	±37-42*
ECF Power Perspectives: On track	2011			50*
ECF Power Perspectives: Higher RES				60*
Eurelectric Power Choices: Baseline 2009	2010		18.4**	31.7**
Eurelectric Power Choices scenario		40	23.6**	35.4**
EREC RE-thinking	2010		42.4-44.4**	65-67**
EU Projects				
RE-Shaping (BAU – high demand)	2012		18.9**	28.8**
RE-Shaping (BAU – barriers mitigated)			25**	41.5**
RE-Shaping (reference)			30.9**	53.7**
RE-Shaping (reference – low demand)			31.3**	55.1**
RE-Shaping (PRIMES - baseline)			18.4**	31.9**
RE-Shaping (PRIMES - reference)			23.9**	40.4**
RE-Shaping (PRIMES – High RES)			31.2**	60**
RealiseGrid (Optimistic scenario)	2011			48.6*
RealiseGrid (EU centric scenario)				55.8*
RealiseGrid (Pessimistic scenario)				50.7*
SUSPlan (Green scenario)	2011		±28**	±52**
SUSPlan (Blue scenario)			±26**	±46**
SUSPlan (Yellow scenario)			±27**	±48**
SUSPlan (Red scenario)			±21**	±35**

*Share in production mix

**Share in consumption mix

B. Stakeholders' reactions to the EC Communication⁴

Civil society

ACT Alliance⁵, Vitu Chinoko (Climate change policy and advocacy officer): "It's a slap in the face for the millions of vulnerable poor people in developing countries who already suffer the impact of climate change."

APRODEV⁶, Janna Schönfeld (Policy Officer Climate Change and Development): "The EU needs to show it's up to the challenge by cutting greenhouse gases by at least 55% compared to 1990, ensuring at least 45% of energy consumption is from renewable sources and reducing energy use by 40% compared to 2005."

Birdlife, Ariel Brunner (Head of EU Policy): "The package would not safeguard Europe from damaging climate change. It even proposes to open Europe's doors to the worst types of dirty fuels. To stand a reasonable chance of avoiding more than two degrees of warming by the end of the century, the European Union must set up binding 2030 targets for climate, renewables and energy saving. To start, the cut in greenhouse gas emissions must be more ambitious and reach 55% by 2030. In line with this, BirdLife Europe supports a binding 45% share of renewables and binding 40% energy savings by 2030."

CARE International⁷, Sven Harmeling (Climate Change Advocacy Coordinator): "If the EU does not deliver its fair share of emissions reductions through the 2030 climate and energy package and live up to its responsibilities, it will be condoning the devastation of millions of livelihoods and increasing poverty for the world's poorest and most vulnerable people."

Climate Action Network Europe, Dora Petroula (Policy Officer): "Three binding targets would help Europe fulfil its climate goals and boost its economy. Regrettably the Commission chose to present a proposal that is not ambitious and does not include an energy savings target, keeping the corresponding benefits away."

European Consumer Organisation (BEUC), Monique Goyens (Director-general): "Keeping energy prices affordable should be at the front of our minds when overhauling energy policy for the coming decades. The Commission's own figures show that energy expenditure in 2010 and 2011 represented up to 10% of household income. This untenable situation needs to be tackled."

European Environmental Bureau, Jeremy Wates (Secretary-General): "The Commission's proposal falls well short of what science tells us is needed to address the devastating consequences of climate change and shows a serious lack of vision and leadership by President Barroso. By siding with the fossil-based business interests of yesterday, President Barroso appears to have abandoned the progressive business interests of tomorrow and the prospects for Europe to take a global lead in moving towards a sustainable low carbon economy."

⁴ The statements were retrieved from:

<http://www.rccc.org/2014/01/22/eu-2030-climate-and-energy-package-all-the-reaction/>

<http://www.euractiv.com/energy/eu-sets-walk-sprint-2030-clean-e-news-532960>

⁵ ACT Alliance is a coalition of 140 churches and affiliated organisations working together in over 130 countries on humanitarian aid, development and advocacy

⁶ APRODEV is the Association of World Council of Churches related Development Organizations in Europe

⁷ CARE is a major international humanitarian agency delivering broad-spectrum emergency relief and long-term international development projects

Friends of the Earth Europe, Asad Rehman (International climate campaigner): “Climate change is one of the biggest threats we face, but instead of putting action to tackle it at the heart of its policy making, the EU has effectively kicked it into the side lines. Building a low carbon Europe would not only be good for the environment, it would also create thousands of jobs and boost the economy, as the EU’s own research so clearly shows. Households across Europe are paying a heavy price for our dependency on dirty and increasingly costly fossil fuels – it’s time for a fresh approach to the huge challenges we face.”

Food & Water Europe, Geert de Cock (Policy Officer): “The Commission proposals on unconventional fossil fuels fail to deliver the robust rules that the Commission’s own impact assessment, the Parliament, opinion polls and the International Energy Agency have called for. The lack of courage by EU leaders to stand up to industry pressure will galvanize our campaign for a complete ban on fracking.”

Greenpeace UK, Ruth Davis (Political Director): “A 40% greenhouse gas target is simply not enough to set the pace towards a 2 degree global climate deal. A weak target and ETS reforms that will only kick in after 2020 are unlikely to see off king coal from our energy mix. And a renewables target which looks like a parody of the US’s favoured ‘pledge and review’ approach to climate planning is scarcely an invitation to clean tech investors.”

Oxfam, Lies Craeynest (Climate change expert): “The European Commission is gambling with our futures. The proposed 40% target would scupper any hopes of keeping temperatures below the 2 degree danger level. With such lamentably low ambition, the Commission is dramatically increasing the odds of a future global food crisis. Shamefully, Commission President Barroso has put the interests of the fossil fuel lobby above all others. Progressive business leaders who understand the serious threat that climate change poses to people and the economy must now make sure European governments demand a much bolder 2030 EU climate package.”

Sandbag, Damien Morris (Head of Policy): “It was encouraging to see the Commission support a 40% domestic target in keeping with the 2050 Roadmap. But more work is needed to ensure Europe actually stays on the cost-effective trajectory to meet its 2050 goals. Unless removed, the surplus allowances in the EU Emissions Trading Scheme threaten to drag Europe dangerously off course to reach this target.”

The Climate Group, Mark Kenber (CEO): “The 2030 framework can act as a real driver for clean economic growth. Ministers must recognize this opportunity when they meet in March, and build on the Commission’s plan, especially in the interests of an ambitious and effective global deal in 2015.”

Transport & Environment, Nusa Urbancic (Policy Manager for clean fuels): “The Commission is using the climate and energy package as an excuse to quietly scrap the FQD - the best EU law aimed at lowering emissions from transport fuel. This is good news for oil companies and Alberta, with its high-carbon tar sands, but bad news for Europe in our move towards a more sustainable transport system. We call on EU member states to reverse this decision when they discuss it at the Environment Council in March.”

WWF European Policy Office, Jason Anderson (Head of Climate and Energy): “An independent analysis shows that more ambitious decarbonisation scenarios deliver greater benefits, though the EC’s draft impact assessment is limited to 45% emissions cuts, and the political discussion is focused on even lower figures. It also reveals that despite the need to ensure long term decarbonisation, European Commission proposals for 2030 appear to reduce ambition for 2050 compared to previous publications. The European Commission’s work should be based on expert analysis and resist Europe’s least ambitious voices, or the EU will face 10 years of climate inaction, energy sector stagnation, and lost

environmental and economic opportunities. I'm sure the fossil fuel lobbyists will sleep well tonight. It is now up to Member State governments to show the political leadership needed to inspire Europe towards an industrial and economic revolution that will provide for both people and the planet."

Industry

Acciona, Carmen Becerril (Chief International Officer): "Only by setting a clear direction on GHG emissions reductions and renewables can Europe attempt to keep its share of the global low carbon and environmental business market. We do however need to be even more ambitious if Europe is to trigger a clean energy revolution."

Alstom: "EU Commission gets it wrong: RES target at 27% too low even if it's binding"

BusinessEurope, Markus J. Beyrer (Director-General): "It is positive that the pack of measures published today acknowledges the challenge of high energy prices in the EU and addresses the risk of investment leakage better than in the past. However, the overall level of ambition for a 2030 greenhouse gas reduction target is only realistic if a binding international climate agreement can be concluded in 2015. Therefore we urge the European Commission and the European Council to make sure that Europe will not be once again a lone frontrunner without followers."

CBI⁸, Katja Hall (Chief Policy Director): "This package puts us on the right path to delivering a competitive, low-carbon future. It's important that member states have flexibility to decarbonise in the most cost-effective way. An emissions reduction target of 40% is ambitious and credible, and reflects what we have been calling for. But targets are only as good as the policies that support them, and the EU Emissions Trading System must continue to be the cornerstone of the EU's climate policy."

CEDEC⁹, Gert De Block (Secretary-General): "This proposal is clearly disappointing from our point of view. CEDEC has been strongly advocating for a multiple-target approach, with an ambitious and legally binding target for renewables and greenhouse gas emissions in 2030, along with intensive energy efficiency efforts. A European RES target without legally binding national targets will not hold Member States accountable for their commitments. This proposal is clearly lacking accountability, also on EU level."

Coalition of Progressive European Energy Companies: "The certainty of these targets can give support to the on-going transition of the EU energy system and help drive cost reductions for key technologies. However, with the target for renewables not differentiated per member state, strong governance and reliable enforcement mechanisms will be crucial to avoid uncertainty for investments in renewable energy."

Community of European Railways, Libor Lochman (Executive Director): "Expanding railway transport can facilitate the EU's efforts towards achieving its climate policy and energy security goals. We need to pursue genuine joined-up thinking to ensure that the EU's transport policies are fully aligned with the EU's climate and energy policy objectives so as to ensure that all economic sectors can play their full role in supporting the EU's common goals."

⁸ CBI is the UK's premier lobbying organization, providing a voice for employers at a national and international level

⁹ CEDEC represents over 1,500 local and regional energy companies

ePURE¹⁰, Rob Vierhout (Secretary General): “The Commission has failed in its first test to provide a clear signal to investors that there will be a clear policy framework for sustainable biofuels in Europe after 2020. These proposals are short sighted, the only winners will be the fossil fuel industry. The proposals ignore the giant elephant in the room, the constantly increasing GHG emissions of EU transport, which now represent over a quarter of EU GHG emissions. We call on the European Parliament and Member States to recognise the benefits of sustainable biofuels by introducing separate and binding targets for renewable energy and GHG reductions in transport”.

Eurelectric, Hans ten Berge (Secretary-General): “We are pleased to see that the Commission recognises the interactions between different targets and instruments. We acknowledge their intention to reduce complexity and ensure greater cost-effectiveness through more European and market-driven approaches, most notably the ETS. Eurelectric has repeatedly called on policymakers to strengthen and extend the ETS as the most cost-effective instrument to deliver decarbonisation, including a continued and less costly expansion of renewables. We have also called for an economy-wide, binding 2030 greenhouse gas reduction target of at least -40% compared to 1990.”

European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (EuroACE), Adrian Joyce (Secretary-General): “Excluding Energy Efficiency from the 2030 Package is to consciously choose NOT to boost our fragile economic recovery and to lock-in high costs for future generations, renege on our climate commitments and reduce EU competitiveness. By proposing only a GHG emissions target and a Renewables target, the Commission’s White Paper genuinely ignores the crucial role energy efficiency should play in meeting our climate and energy ambitions in a cost-effective manner, based on the energy savings potential of each sector.”

European Biodiesel Board, Raffaello Garofalo (Secretary-General): “Binding targets have shown to be right in deploying renewable sources. Industry relies on stable long-term policy framework. European institutions and Member States have the responsibility to reinforce sustainable transport with specific targets.”

European Heat Pump Association, Thomas Nowak (Secretary-General): called for “a meaningful and ambitious post-2020 energy and climate policy based on three targets. Anything less than that must be considered inappropriate. Suggesting rather unambitious targets for GHG emissions and renewables has little meaning, as both will largely be reached by continuing business as usual.”

European Insulation Manufacturers Association (Eurima), Jan te Bos (Director-General): “By deciding not to propose a binding energy efficiency target in its 2030 Climate & Energy Package, the EU Commission has chosen a short-sighted business-as-usual approach that will fail to deliver long-term competitiveness and sustainable growth in the EU. Everyone knows that the future competitiveness and sustainable growth potential of the EU economy will largely depend on its resource efficiency, especially its energy efficiency. Ambitious energy efficiency policies and measures tick all the boxes for solving the current economic, social and environmental challenges, and their almost immediate return on investment will re-inject funds into our economies thus becoming a “revolving engine for local growth and jobs”.

European Petroleum Industry (Europia), Chris Beddoes (Director-General): “The proposed package is complex and very new to most readers and we will look at it carefully before commenting in details. It

¹⁰ ePURE represents the European renewable ethanol industry at the EU level

must now serve as basis for much wider stakeholder debate about Europe's path to 2030, especially before binding targets and measures, which could harm the competitiveness of European industry if other regions do not implement equivalent measures, are finally adopted. Europa will contribute to what we hope will be an open and constructive debate based upon fact based and objective analysis".

European Photovoltaic Industry Association (EPIA), Frauke Thies (Policy Director): "The Commission proposals are falling far below the adequate level of ambition. While the binding 2020 target for renewables proved to be a success story, initiating massive costs reduction and technology leadership in Europe, the Commission's proposal for 2030 sadly is a lame duck. 27% renewables by 2030 is indeed barely more than the Commission's business-as-usual scenario. In addition, it is an EU-wide target without binding national breakdowns. We are now looking at the European Council to make this supposedly binding target meaningful, by turning it into real national binding targets."

European Renewable Energy Council (EREC), Rainer Hinrichs-Rahlwes (President): "After a heated internal debate on whether to propose a very unambitious or just an unambitious climate and energy framework for 2030, the Commission has chosen the latter. What's more, the Commission is undermining its own findings from the impact assessment and has opted for less growth, fewer jobs and more spending on fossil fuel import."

European Steel Association (EUROFER), Gordon Moffat (Director-General): "The Commission proposals on energy and climate up to 2030 will do nothing to promote an industrial renaissance, rather they will accelerate the de-industrialisation which is already underway. We appeal urgently to the EU member states and the European Parliament to adopt some principles which would make the EU energy and climate policy workable for energy intensive industry and sustainable for the EU's economy."

European Wind Energy Association (EWEA), Thomas Becker (CEO): "The previously far-sighted and ambitious European Commission is a shadow of its former self, hiding behind the UK and other backward-looking Member States and lobbies. By effectively advocating repatriation of energy policy to Member States, President Barroso appears to have forgotten his previous calls for 'more European integration' on energy policy. The Heads of State now need to show leadership and agree an ambitious 2030 climate and energy framework that benefits Europe and allows its world-leading wind energy sector to make Europe more prosperous and secure."

European Wind Energy Association (EWEA), Jacopo Moccia (Head of Political Affairs): "It's very weak. It was a communications gimmick rather than a real target. How do we determine the EU has met its target if it has no obligations on member states? It's hard to imagine the EU will take itself to court and fine itself."

Friends of the Supergrid: "More action needs to be taken by the European Commission to hasten the development of a single market in electricity and the construction of physical interconnection projects. Interconnection objectives for 2030 that would sit alongside targets for carbon emissions reductions would help deliver more secure, affordable and low-carbon sources of energy."

Glass for Europe: "urges the European Parliament and the Council to give solid foundations to a real and credible framework by prioritizing energy efficiency."

International Emissions Trading Association (IETA), Dirk Forrister (CEO): "The 2030 plan provided clarity on the policy direction for the EU. It is troubling that the connections to global markets appear to end with the emphasis on domestic action alone. If the Paris Climate Summit in 2015 is to succeed in

building a cost effective global framework for protecting against warming over 2 degrees C, global markets are essential - these must be practical and effective and, given the experience of the EU ETS and the CDM, Europe must look to provide leadership. That said, we are pleased to see that the Commission is open to future consideration of international market linkages.”

Knauf Insulation, Tony Robson (CEO): “Consumers across the EU are crying out for governments to bring down energy bills. It is inexcusable that the Commission has proposed a way forward that will drive costs up while ignoring energy efficiency – the only guaranteed, cost neutral way to drive competitiveness through reduced energy costs.”

Novozymes, Nour Amrani (Public Affairs Manager): “The absence of a specific framework for transport in today’s proposal is deeply regrettable. Transport is responsible for 25% of EU greenhouse gas emissions and its share is further growing. It is also the sector where our energy dependency is rising. This has justified the sectoral approach adopted in the 2020 climate and energy package, which remains valid post 2020. We therefore urge EU decision-makers to demonstrate their commitment to long term climate and energy objectives by renewing ambitious targets for the transport sector by 2030.”

Philips, Harry Verhaar (Head of Global Public & Government Affairs): “The omission of a binding energy efficiency target is particularly disappointing and we hope that it will be reconsidered in the next months under the review of the Energy efficiency Directive. European policy-makers must realize that Europe will never lead on cheap energy and must lead on least consumed energy. Energy efficiency is a key driver in making Europe more competitive and energy independent, by stimulating innovation in the products and services with which we compete in the global market place.”

RenewableUK, Maria McCaffery (Chief Executive): “While it is pleasing to see the EU Commission recognise that renewable energy is a key part of future energy solutions across Europe, the lack of ambition in not ensuring there are national binding targets for renewable energy is a disappointment. This is a missed opportunity for member states to take collective and serious action on the drive for clean, sustainable, renewable energy, which is the best option for reducing our carbon emissions.”

Skanska, Noel Morrin (Senior Vice President, Sustainability & Green Support): “We are concerned that without binding energy efficiency targets the 2030 package will not provide the long term signal needed for continued investments. The emissions reduction target should be complemented by a clear signal on energy efficiency to ensure markets get to where we need to be in 2050.”

UK Renewable Energy Association, Nina Skorupska (CEO): “Policymakers should act with urgency and waste no time in turning these proposals into legislative reality. We’re about to find out what happens when theoretical economics meets the real world. Theory suggests a ‘technology neutral’ approach is economically efficient. But experience shows that binding renewables targets do two things: First, they give a major long-term boost to investor confidence, helping accelerate market growth and technology cost reduction. Second, politics frequently trumps economics in the real world, and when politicians go wobbly on renewables, the targets help keep investment flowing.”

UK Renewables Energy Association, Leonie Greene (Head of External Affairs): “From a climate perspective Europe needs to expedite, not slow, renewables deployment. From an economic perspective weakening ambition is nonsensical given the massive investments in renewables our international competitors are making. The 27% renewables target is no more than the Commission

expects under business as usual, so the Council and Parliament must improve this significantly if it's to have any meaningful effect".

UNICA¹¹, Géraldine Kutas (Head of International Affairs): "Apparently, the current European Commission's long term strategy is now formally not to have one. The Commission proposed, as expected, no longer term extension or increase to the 10% renewables-in-transport target set for 2020. But it went one step further today and dropped an EU goal for reducing the greenhouse gas intensity of fuels used in road transport. This Commission had an opportunity to lay out a necessary plan to address Europe's longer term transport and environmental challenges by including such things as a longer term target for sustainable biofuels to give industry investment confidence. Fortunately there is much debate ahead on this matter."

Unilever, Paul Polman (CEO): "A 40% target is a minimum level of ambition if we are to tackle climate change and deliver sustainable growth in the long term. We hope that other countries will follow Europe's lead in developing their own ambitious targets."

Vestas Wind Systems, Anders Runevad (CEO): "The white paper provides the basis for a long-term commitment in Europe, but of course we would like to see the national regulations as well. The next big step is to get national level targets."

Westinghouse, Yves Brachet (Middle East and Africa President): "For the most part, the Commission's proposal sends clear signals and sets the right long-term policy framework for all actors to contribute to making Europe's low carbon future a reality. We remain convinced that technology neutrality is the best way forward. Generating more than 25% of EU electricity today, nuclear energy plays a key role in meeting Europe's low-carbon and energy-security objectives in the long term."

Policy

Commissioner for DG Climate Action, Connie Hedegaard: "In spite of all those arguing that nothing ambitious would come out of the Commission today, we did it. A 40% emissions reduction is the most cost-effective target for the EU and it takes account of our global responsibility. And of course Europe must continue its strong focus on renewables. That is why it matters that the Commission is proposing today a binding EU-level target. The details of the framework will now have to be agreed, but the direction for Europe has been set. If all other regions were equally ambitious about tackling climate change, the world would be in significantly better shape."

Committee of Regions of the EU: "The energy and climate plans lack ambitions and overlook local government: We welcome the Commission's proposal to introduce binding targets on greenhouse gases and renewable energy. The previous 2020 targets drove up the share of renewable energy in the EU by 4.5%: renewables is a growth sector boosting competitiveness, creating jobs and attracting much needed investment in our communities."

European Parliament, Anne Delvaux (MEP): "Failing to include a binding Energy Efficiency Target in the 2030 Climate and Energy Package flies in the face of basic EU democracy by openly disregarding the Report adopted in the ENVI-ITRE Parliamentary Committees this month which calls for 3 binding targets. Increased Energy Efficiency should be seen as the cornerstone of the EU's 2030 climate and energy

¹¹ Brazilian sugar cane industry body

package, and a binding 40% Energy Efficiency target by 2030 is the only way to unlock the huge energy savings in sectors such as buildings where the energy savings is huge and cost-effective!”

European People's Party (EPP), Richard Seeber (MEP), Pilar Del Castillo (MEP): "EU climate policy must not become an anti-industry policy. It is not sufficient to push for a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions whilst neglecting the roll-out of more renewable energies and the boosting of industry production in Europe."

European United Left/Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL), Sabine Wils (MEP): "Quite simply the Commission has put the interests of large energy companies above the interests of the environment and the most vulnerable populations whose livelihoods are already under threat as a result of climate change. The Commission white paper aims to lock Europe into an unsustainable energy system that is bad for people and the environment, while guaranteeing large benefits to the coal, gas, nuclear power and bioenergy industries. It seems as if the Commission wants to prevent making the necessary long term changes."

Green Party, Bas Eickhout (Climate change spokesperson): "What the Commission is proposing is too little, too late. It will do little or nothing to address the oversupply of emissions permits, which is depressing the EU carbon market, in the short to medium term. As a result, if these proposals are not radically altered, it would essentially commit the EU's flagship climate change policy to a prolonged period of malfunction. The proposed market stability reserve is a mockery and will utterly fail to deal with the huge surplus of emissions permits that are flooding the market. It will only begin operation from 2021 on, by which time the surplus of permits/allowances in EU's carbon market will have been allowed to grow to 2.6 billion, based on current estimates. Even by 2030, the surplus would still amount to over 2 billion, based on what has been proposed today."

Socialists and Democrats, Linda McAvan (Environment spokesperson): "An EU-wide binding renewables target with no individual national targets would appear to be unenforceable. We would still have to see how the governance system the Commission wants to introduce will work. So far the EU climate and energy policy has only been successful because there were binding national targets. We are the world leaders for a transition to a clean and sustainable economy. Let's keep hold of that leadership!"

UK Energy and Climate chief, Ed Davey: "Today's proposals are a step in the right direction towards an ambitious emissions reduction target for Europe. They provide the flexibility to tackle climate change in the most cost-effective way, so that British consumers aren't paying over the odds to go green. This package backs the green growth agenda I've been working for with other European colleagues."

Research

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Kevin Trenberth: EU seemed to be backing away a little bit after the 2020 goals and leaving a gap in ambition

Lord Stern (Chief Economist): "It is very important that European leaders accept the Commission's proposed target for reducing emissions by 40 per cent by 2030 compared with 1990 as the minimum ambition they must set at their summit in March. Billions of euros of private investment in the low-carbon transition could be unleashed if the 2030 target gives greater confidence to companies, particularly in the power sector, that the European Union is on an optimal path towards the long-term goal of reducing emissions by at least 80 per cent by 2050 compared with 1990."

Tyndall Centre for Climate Change, Kevin Anderson: “A sad day for science, rationality and humanity. The EU’s dishonesty over its greenhouse gas target may be politically palatable today but our children will reap the repercussions of our short-term hedonism. Given the EU’s importance as a leader in international climate change negotiations, a 40% target would condemn many millions of poor people to a dangerous future. If we stick to this 40% target we will by 2030 have reneged on our international commitments to avoid dangerous global warming of 2 degrees centigrade.

Other

Carbon Market Watch, Eva Filzmoser (Director): “Despite announcing a weaker overall target than is necessary, we welcome the European Commission’s proposal to build the EU’s future climate framework on domestic measures. Member States and the European Parliament must support the move and keep the door to international offsets firmly shut.”

CDP¹², Paul Dickinson (Executive Chairman): “Strong binding targets in energy efficiency and renewable energy - two fundamental pillars of emissions abatement - are essential in giving investors confidence in low carbon technologies and in guiding investment decisions away from products and services that are based on the use of fossil fuels.”

Coalition for Energy Savings, Stefan Scheuer (Secretary-General): “A climate and energy policy with no long-term energy savings target cannot be called a framework but is piecemeal. It will exacerbate social, environmental and economic problems. However, the Commission left itself a chance to fix this omission in the coming months, certainly influenced by the growing support for a 2030 binding energy savings target.”

Energy Cities’, Gérard Magnin (Executive Director): “Europe is sending a bad signal to investors, citizens and local authorities by downgrading its climate and energy ambitions. While European leaders fear for the block’s competitiveness, the energy transition that is being implemented by thousands of cities across the continent is creating local jobs, delivering tangible economic savings and fostering numerous business opportunities.”

European Alliance to Save Energy, Monica Frassoni (President): “This is a depressing day for Europe. President Barroso’s ambition to leave a green legacy from his two mandates has miserably failed. We currently have an energy paradigm where we send billions of euros out of Europe rather than employing people in Europe to save energy. Today’s communication was a chance to fix this by creating an energy and climate policy that started with the most cost-effective measures first. Instead the Commission has given in to the intense lobbying efforts of the large energy providers and energy intensive industries and what we have is a disaster – both for Europe’s climate and our competitiveness.”

Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change, Stephanie Pfeifer (Chief Executive): “Today’s proposals are an important first step to restoring investor confidence in the EU’s vision for a low-carbon energy future. A 40% emissions reduction target is the minimum necessary to keep Europe on course for a low-carbon economy as outlined in the EU’s 2050 Roadmap. Achieving this target is well within member state capabilities and crucial for long-term policy certainty. Plans for reform of the Emissions Trading

¹² CDP is an international, not-for-profit organization providing a global system for companies and cities to measure, disclose, manage and share vital environmental information.

Scheme have been long-awaited and the establishment of a reserve mechanism which can support a strong carbon price is a welcome move. However, investors would like more clarity on how this reserve mechanism will bring about a meaningful carbon price over the long-term.”

PwC, Lit Ping Low (climate economist): “These are important numbers from the European Commission on energy and climate change. The 40% GHG reduction target by 2030 relative to 1990 levels reinforces the UK’s goal of halving emissions by the end of the fourth carbon budget. But setting a target is one thing, achieving it is another. Even to meet the 2020 targets, much of the low-hanging fruits, which are primarily on energy efficiency, have been exhausted. The UK, and several other EU countries, already has one of the lowest energy intensities in the world.”

Thomson Reuters Point Carbon, Hæge Fjellheim (Senior Analyst): “The proposals tabled by the European Commission will kick off a process that will shape the EU’s climate and energy policy towards 2030. If member states support a 40% reduction target this year it would position the EU to play a leading role in the process towards a new global climate deal to be adopted by the end of 2015. However, it won’t be easy to get all EU countries to sign up to this target. The European Council in March may well see an exchange of views rather than an adoption of a final EU position.”

UN Climate chief, Christiana Figueres: “EU on track by recommending Europe-wide 40% emissions cut target by 2030. Positive signal for meaningful 2015 agreement.”