

MEDIA ALERT
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Promotion of cogeneration key for making Europe more energy-efficient



LATEST COGEN EUROPE POSITION PAPER

On 21 March 2006, COGEN Europe has issued its official response to the Green Paper on energy efficiency. "By identifying the promotion cogeneration as one key measure for making Europe more energy efficient, the Green Paper represents a good analysis of the current situation. The fact that with a share of only 10% of electricity generation the use of cogeneration is far below the Community target of 18%, highlights the need not only to implement the Cogeneration Directive in a rigorous manner, but to complement this piece of legislation with a set of flanking measures", Frank Knecht of COGEN Europe says.

In order to exploit the potential of the cogeneration sector fully to contribute to overall energy efficiency, the European Union and the Member States should focus on five main areas:

- The rigorous implementation of the Cogeneration Directive
- The establishment of cost-effective support mechanisms
- The creation of a fair market framework for independent producers of heat and power
- The launch of long-term information campaigns on cogeneration
- The wider use of voluntary agreements with the industry

COGEN Europe urges the Member States to adequately cope with the importance of the cogeneration sector by including a specific chapter on cogeneration promotion when establishing their national energy efficiency action plans. These national cogeneration action plans should include national targets, a list of specific actions, and clear timetables. In this context, COGEN Europe warmly welcomes the cross-party and cross-country initiative "Energy Intelligent Europe", which called out for such measures to be taken at national level.

See full text of the COGEN Europe position paper:

http://www.cogen.org/Downloadables/Publications/Position_Paper_GP_energy_efficiency.pdf

COGEN Europe is Europe's umbrella organisation representing the interests of the cogeneration industry, users of the technology and promoting its benefits in the EU and the wider Europe. The association is backed by the key players in the industry including gas and electricity companies, ESCOs, equipment suppliers, consultancies, national promotion organisations, financial and other service companies.