



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Energy Efficiency Directive: implementation will be key

Euroheat & Power<sup>1</sup> welcomes that Parliament and Council have reached a deal on the Commission's proposal on energy efficiency. This Directive consolidates the *acquis* of Directive 2004/08/EC on the promotion of Combined Heat and Power (CHP) and aims at further developing District Heating and Cooling (DHC) with provisions to assess the potential and heat planning based on cost-benefit analysis. It is regrettable though that the indispensable efficiency improvements for the energy conversion sector have not been concretely quantified. In absence of a gradual efficiency target for thermal power production, there is a risk that the interpretation of the text by Member States will not deliver realization of the full potential for CHP/DHC.

Furthermore, the text lacks ambition with regards to developments of synergies and opportunities at the local level. When implementing the Directive, a strong focus on the actual goal – to reduce Europe's consumption of primary energy – will be needed to organize the energy transition at the local level in terms of future proof and cost-effective energy supply and consumption for the benefit of all citizens.

While the implementation process will be key to judge the effectiveness of this Directive, it is important that the Commission engages now in discussions on the role of energy efficiency and how to address heating and cooling as markets in the post-2020 horizon. Discussions on the future of policies on CO<sub>2</sub> and renewables have already started. In line with the undisputed benefits of energy efficiency for the economy and citizens, the European Union needs to continue the effort on the long-term.

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<sup>1</sup> Euroheat & Power (EHP) is the International Association of District Heating & Cooling, representing the district heating and cooling (DHC) sector in Europe and beyond, covering all aspects related to District Heating and District Cooling and related energy sources and technologies. [www.euroheat.org](http://www.euroheat.org)

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**Background:** A new academic study shows that District Heating and Cooling will facilitate a faster and more cost-effective use of local, renewable and surplus energy sources, thereby enabling a smooth energy transformation at lower costs (minus 11% compared to the Energy Roadmap 2050 CPI scenario). In terms of job-creation, investing into District Heating could result in 8-9 million man-years created in Europe during the next 40 year period. More on the study click [here](#)