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PRESS RELEASE:

EU Energy Strategy 2011-2020 Must Focus More on Energy Efficiency, but NOT on White Certificates *A Bucket of NEW Policies are in Need*

Today, the EU Commission has released "*Energy2020. A strategy for competitive, sustainable and secure energy*". It *timely warns* about future energy supply crisis and sets energy efficiency as the first priority. *Unfortunately*, the most direct, new energy efficiency proposal is the introduction of "White Certificates" to force supply companies to promote energy savings at their costumers. *Instead of White Certificates, which have a mixed track record in the EU countries, EU needs a bucket of new policies to reach the energy efficiency targets, including:*

- More specific proposals for use of EU funding such as *structural funds*. A large part of future structural funds must be used for energy efficiency and the transition to renewable energy.
- *Energy efficiency requirements of energy supply companies*, but not necessarily tradable as White Certificates are.
- *Energy efficiency levies on energy consumption* to fund energy efficiency promotion.
- More focus on energy efficiency in industry, also with levies on their energy consumption to promote industrial energy efficiency. Even though energy levies initially can be a burden for the industries, the future successful industries will be energy efficient; and a *levy + support is a way to prepare them for the future*.
- *Transport measures* must go beyond the proposals of urban mobility and car labelling. It must start a move from private transport to high quality public transport.

The energy supply priorities of Energy2020 are crucial:

- The strategy's transmission focus must not just lead to public financing of transmission lines of gas and electricity. *Proposals must be compared with more local solutions* that provide the same security of energy supply, flexibility etc. And public funding of projects of "European interests" must not be reserved for the transmission infrastructure, but should be equally available for local solutions.
- The support for low-carbon supply solutions must prioritise the most sustainable widely applicable solutions: *efficient use of renewable energy*. This must be done in the existing *SET Plan and "Technology Roadmap"*, where for instance nuclear power is supported today, as well as in the new €1 billion-initiative for low-carbon energy breakthroughs.

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