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Update on next CEEP SGI Task Force meeting on 12 July**Communication sent to members of the CEEP SGI Task Force (4/7/2017):**

Ahead of the next SGI Task Force meeting **on 12 July 2017**, members have suggested to start the meeting 15 minutes later in order to make it possible to participate in a breakfast event on the role of public utilities in the "brave new data world" at the European Parliament. Please find below updated information on both meetings:

The **CEEP SGI (Services of General Interest) Task Force meeting will take place from 10.15 am to 1.15 pm**. Please find hereafter the accordingly updated [official invitation](#) as well as the updated [draft agenda](#). Main issues will be EU trade agreements, the CEEP reaction to the Commission's reflection paper on Globalisation as well as the Commission's consultation on burden reduction objectives. Should you be interested in participating, please contact me as soon as possible. Should you not have received the meeting documents through my email of last 29 June 2017, please also contact me.

For the first part of the morning, just before the CEEP SGI Task Force meeting, Wiener Stadtwerke, member of the Austrian CEEP section, would like to invite you to a **Parliament breakfast debate on digitalisation with the title "Brave New DATA World: Is there a place left for public utilities?"**, from **8.30 am to 10.00 am**, organised by Prof. Dr. Josef Weidenholzer, Member of the European Parliament, and the S&D group. [Please find here more information](#) that I would like to forward you on behalf of Elisa Schenner, including on how to register (by this Friday, 7 July 2017).

As already announced in previous messages, should you organise events that might be interesting also to other CEEP members, please do not hesitate to inform me about them.

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CEEP Transport Task Force meeting & CEEP statement on e-mobility

Communication sent to members of the CEEP Transport Task Force (3/7/2017):

As you might already have noted, the **next CEEP Transport Task Force meeting will take place this Wednesday, 5 July 2017, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, at CEEP premises in Brussels**. Please find hereafter the [official invitation](#) as well as the [draft agenda](#) (please note that it has been slightly updated).

Looking forward to a fruitful meeting, I would like to thank all those who have already registered. Should you wish to attend the meeting, but have not yet registered, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you in advance.

In the spirit of evolving a **joint CEEP statement on the issue of e-mobility** that is supported by the members of all CEEP Task Forces interested in it, I would like to forward you two very valuable contributions that I have received from members for last Friday's meeting of the CEEP Energy Task Force. Please find hereafter the input received from [Wiener Stadtwerke](#) as well as from [GdW, the Federal Union of German Housing and Real Estate Associations](#). The latter is supposed to also provide a basis for the discussion of concrete amendments to the Commission proposal for the review of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) that includes provisions on e-mobility (article 8). In addition to that, I would like to thank those members who have sent me very helpful input, including background information, from other associations.

The slightly updated version of the draft agenda (cf. above) now includes a discussion on a CEEP statement on e-mobility. Regarding the joint work on **CEEP amendments to the EPBD**, we will organise a phone conference by mid-July in order to finalise them before the summer break. Should you be interested in taking part in it, please contact me by the end of this week (Friday, 7 July).

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CEEP Energy Task Force meeting: Next steps after last week's meeting

Communication sent to members of the CEEP Energy Task Force (4/7/2017):

First of all, I would like to thank all participants of last Friday's CEEP Energy Task Force meeting for a very fruitful meeting as well as Alain Taccoen for very kindly hosting it in Paris.

Please find hereafter the [draft minutes of the meeting](#) that include the main points of discussion and the decisions that were taken by the Task Force.

For your information, please find below the latest versions of the documents indicated in the draft minutes:

- [Updated list of CEEP amendments to a new Electricity Market Design \(Directive and Regulation\)](#)
- [Updated list of CEEP amendments to Risk-preparedness in the electricity sector](#)
- [CEEP amendment to the ACER Regulation review](#)
- [Updated list of CEEP amendments to Energy Performance of Buildings Directive \(EPBD\) review](#) and corresponding [updated GdW input to CEEP statement on e-mobility](#)

In view of the Task Force decision to finalise before the summer break (by mid-July) the CEEP amendments to the Commission's proposals for a new Electricity market design, its proposals for revised legislation on ACER and

the risk-preparedness of the electricity sector as well as for the EPBD, please find hereafter the link to a [Doodle poll in order to identify the best date for our phone conference](#) together with all interested members.

The phone conference is supposed to conclude our discussions on the amendments before we will send them to Members of the European Parliament as well as Council representatives. As discussed at the Task Force meeting, it should take place on 13, 17 or 18 July. **Therefore, please indicate your availability directly in the Doodle poll by this Friday Midday 7 July 2017 at 1.00 pm, at the very latest.** Thank you in advance.

Should you wish to send **last proposals for additional amendments to the existing CEEP drafts**, please align them with the [agreed CEEP position paper](#), integrate them directly in the drafts that you can find above in this email and **send them to me by next week Wednesday Midday 12 July at 1.00 pm, at the very latest.** Afterwards, I will forward them to all participants of the phone conference as a common basis for the final decision.

Should you have any questions or remarks, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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REFIT: Targeted Consultation on Burden Reduction Objectives

Communication sent to CEEP members (27/6/2017):

The present email intends to raise your attention and to ask for your contribution to form the **CEEP answer to a REFIT targeted consultation on burden reduction objectives.**

The issue might seem technical but in our view it can have high political implication. That is why the consultation will also be presented at CEEP statutory meetings this week.

You can find hereafter [the consultation](#), the [letter of Commission Vice-President Timmermans to REFIT](#) and [CEEP note for statutory meetings](#).

To make it short: It looks like the EC is obliged by the Interinstitutional Agreement with Council and Parliament to look at the possibility for the introduction of burden reduction targets. This consultation was launched to examine such a possibility.

The EC is also under pressure from a group of members states pushing for this topic. Currently 5 countries (UK, Germany, Denmark, – who else?) have already such targets on the national level (those targets focus mainly on the administrative burden and not the regulatory burden, except for the UK).

The EC, informally, says that they see the introduction of such targets as unrealistic. This is why they need REFFIT stakeholders' support.

We hope to receive some input from CEEP members already at the statutory meetings this week but, the issue being very complex, we call on the support of all members of Boards and Task Forces. In particular we would like to hear from members belonging to Member States that DO APPLY those targets already because those are the MS trying to extend the practice at EU level.

It would be also very interesting to hear from members belonging to Member States where those targets were previously used and then abandoned (Sweden?).

Please send your input and any relevant information you might have on this practice to Johannes.imminger@ceep.eu by 7 July.

This will allow us to review the material together with members of the SGIs Task Force meeting on 12 July and then hopefully send in an answer to VP Timmermans by 31 July at the latest (extended deadline).

Thank you in advance for your essential support!

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Call for input: Proposal for future Commission right to request information

Communication sent to members of the CEEP Sustainability Board (29/6/2017):

As you might have noted, in May, the European Commission published its Compliance Package which also included a **legislative proposal for a Regulation setting out the conditions and procedure by which the Commission may request undertakings and associations of undertakings to provide information in relation to the internal market and related areas.**

Please find hereafter the [Commission proposal](#) (and related Commission [Staff Working Documents](#)) as well as more information on the different elements of the [Compliance Package](#).

According to the European Commission's own interpretation of the proposal, this initiative should allow it to request information directly from undertakings and associations, meaning, in targeted cases, to source defined and readily available data (such as, for example, cost structure, pricing policy or product volumes sold) "in cases of serious difficulties with the application of EU Single Market legislation". The Commission further states that this would be valuable, for example, to collect information on suspected geo-blocking practices, to corroborate information on public tenders, or to obtain data on the pricing and underlying costs of cross-border parcel delivery. Such requests would be a measure of last resort and the information would be handled subject to strict confidentiality requirements.

The proposal's scope could potentially include the activities of most CEEP members as the Regulation should apply in the following areas:

- (1) the internal market, as referred to in Article 26(2) of the Treaty;
- (2) agriculture and fisheries, other than the conservation of marine biological resources;
- (3) transport;
- (4) environment;
- (5) energy;

While the conditions under which the Commission could request information are rather vague (available information is not sufficient, risk of non-achievement of important EU policy objective), it foresees that fines are possible if the provided information is not provided/adequate.

Therefore, given that the full impact of this proposal is potentially high, but, at the same time, difficult to see its extend at this stage of the legislative proposal, we would like to ask you to carefully go through the Commission proposal with your legal departments and **kindly inform us if and to which extend you think that your company is concerned by it, by 16 August 2017 at the latest.** Thank you very much in advance.

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European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform and Consultation on Microplastics

Communication sent to CEEP Members (29/6/2017):

I would like to inform you about the two following points that might be interesting for you:

European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform:

The European Commission has published a Call for expression of interest for the Platform's Coordination Group. Interested organisations are invited to submit their expression of interest through the online [form](#). The Commission deadline for submissions is 31 August 2017. For further information, please find hereafter the document '[Aim and structure of the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform](#)' and its annex '[Terms of Reference of the Coordination Group](#)'.

The Coordination Group will be composed of up to 24 members who are supposed to provide useful input for public bodies, businesses, trade unions, the knowledge community and civil society organisations. Amongst others, the Coordination Group will be composed of up to 6 representatives from circular economy-relevant business and trade unions groupings, and civil society organisations.

Therefore, should you wish to support a possible CEEP application for this category of stakeholders, please feel warmly invited to do so in the two following ways:

- Kindly inform us about your availability to be appointed as the CEEP representative, ready to provide all the input requested by the European Commission in the consultation document;
- And/Or: Kindly support the CEEP application by providing good practices for the [required template for good practices](#).

Please note that CEEP can only consider applying if we manage to gather a sufficient amount of good practices from members, including from those who do not want to be appointed personally for the Platform.

Should you wish to become involved in CEEP's activities in relation to the Platform and support a possible CEEP application, **please come back to me by 14 July 2017 at the latest**. Thank you very much in advance.

Commission consultation on pollution from microplastics:

The Commission will present by the end of 2017 a Strategy on Plastics as part of the Circular Economy Action Plan. One of its components will address leakages of plastic to the environment. As input for the Strategy, the Commission has launched studies investigating all sources of microplastics and options to reduce their emissions.

In this context, a [public consultation](#) to collect the views of stakeholders and citizens on the policy options to reduce microplastics entering the marine environment was launched, inter alia, to support one of these studies. The Commission deadline is set on 16 October 2017.

Therefore, in order to draft the CEEP response to the consultation, please feel warmly invited to **send me your contributions by 4 September 2017 at the latest**. Thank you very much in advance.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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CEEP Energy Task Force: Updated list of draft amendments on electricity market design

Communication sent to members of the CEEP Energy Task Force (27/6/2017):

Ahead of this Friday's CEEP Energy Task Force meeting in Paris (please find hereafter again [the meeting's draft agenda](#)), please find below the three sets of amendments to the legislative files for which Members of the European Parliament's ITRE Committee will be called to hand in amendments at the beginning of September:

- [Updated list of draft CEEP amendments to the Commission's proposals for a revised electricity market design](#)
- [Updated list of draft CEEP amendments to the Commission's proposal for a revised ACER Regulation](#)
- [List of draft CEEP amendments to the Commission's proposal on risk-preparedness in the electricity sector](#) (no update compared to last version)

In addition to that, please find hereafter again [draft CEEP amendments to the Commission proposal for the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive Review](#).

The Task Force meeting in Paris this Friday will be the opportunity to discuss these proposals and to decide on the next steps. Therefore, I would be thankful if you could present your comments and proposals for changes at the occasion of this meeting.

Moreover, based on the discussions and decisions taken within the Energy Task Force over the last days and weeks, I would like to forward you below the amendments that we have sent to Members of the European Parliament ahead of this week's deadlines:

- [CEEP proposals for amendments to the Commission proposal for a Governance Regulation](#)
- [CEEP proposals for amendments to the Commission proposal for the Energy Efficiency Directive Review](#)
- [CEEP proposals for amendments to the Commission proposal for the Renewable Energy Directive Review](#)

I would like to grasp the occasion to all those among you who have very actively contributed to these amendments, through your proposals and/or comments.

In view of our **discussions on e-mobility at the Energy Task Force meeting in Paris**, I would like to send you the two following documents that I have received from Task Force' members:

- [The input kindly prepared by GdW as a concrete starting point for our discussion](#) that I have already forwarded to you last week. It also includes their set of amendments to the EPBD.

- [The input kindly prepared by Elisa Schenner from Stadtwerke Wien as a second contribution](#) to our debate this Friday. It also brings in the perspective of the Transport sector which further paves the way for a fruitful multi-sectoral approach within CEEP.

Should you have any questions or remarks, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Looking forward to meeting you all in Paris this Friday,

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CEEP SGI Task Force: Draft agenda of next meeting on 12 July 2017

Communication sent to members of the SGI Task Force (29/6/2017):

As already announced, the **next SGI Task Force meeting will take place on 12 July 2017, from 10.00am to 1.00pm**, at CEEP premises in Brussels. Please find hereafter the [official invitation](#) and the [draft agenda](#).

The following meeting documents will be discussed:

- [Draft CEEP opinion on Commission reflection paper "Harnessing Globalisation"](#) as well as overall [draft CEEP opinion on White Paper on the Future of Europe](#), discussed and prepared for finalisation at today's General Assembly
- [The consultation](#), the [letter of Commission Vice-President Timmermans to REFIT](#) and [CEEP note for statutory meetings](#) regarding the Commission's targeted consultation on burden reduction objectives (for more information cf. my message sent to you on 27 June)
- European Parliament Analysis ["From arbitration to the investment court system – The evolution of CETA rules"](#)
- European Commission ["Study on financing models for public services in the EU and their impact on competition"](#)

Should you have any questions or remarks, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Looking forward to meeting you all on 12 July,

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Social Europe e-newsletter : 27 June 2017

Latest Social Europe e-newsletter attached: [Social Europe e-newsletter – 27 June 2017](#)

Eversheds Sutherland : E-briefings, Updates and Conferences

See below links to information received from our partners **Eversheds Sutherland**:

[Business immigration update UK visa sponsorship and licence management](#)

[Eversheds Sutherlands Immigration E-briefing – EEA Citizen Applications](#)

[Eversheds Sutherland quarterly employment update](#)

[Complex Employment Disputes – Half-day Briefings with Deloitte Discovery](#)

[Colleagues with cancer – Half-day Briefings including a Chief Medical Officer](#)