

PRESS RELEASE

24. January 2006

Making Europe the most energy and transport efficient economy in the world.

On the occasion of today's Joint Meeting with national Parliamentarians on energy efficiency in the European Parliament, the cross party and cross country **initiative “energy intelligent Europe” together with national Parliamentarians launched the initiative of an "ENERGY EFFICIENCY WATCH".**

In a joint statement the group of Parliamentarians from the European and national level said: "Energy efficiency is the biggest energy source of EU 25 in the last years, - ahead of oil, gas, coal and nuclear (see figure below). Talking today about security of supply should mean significant action in this field as a very first priority. This is our clear message to the spring council in March."

"We want to install an "Energy Efficiency Watch" in order to be sure that relevant actions in this field at national or EU level are well established. This new body will facilitate exchanges in best practice and will closely monitor the actions and results proposed in the EU Energy Efficiency Action Plan and the upcoming National Energy Efficiency Action Plans. We need action not only talk!"

"Action is required to secure the benefits energy efficiency offers. We, the European legislators, commit ourselves to a set of activities and actions to promote concrete measures for energy efficiency. These are required at both at EU level and at national and local/regional level. All sectors of society - politicians, administrations and institutions, businesses, citizens - have to a role to play. The objective is to bring energy efficiency technologies into action wherever and whenever possible."

"Europe will benefit from increased levels of energy independence, achieved in the most environmentally friendly way, and at the lowest cost. And large commercial opportunities also exist for Europe to become the global technology leader in energy efficiency."

The politicians call on everyone to join this initiative and to support the Energy Efficiency Watch: "This initiative should inspire everyone at all levels for a new energy efficiency culture!"

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Please find the "Join us"-Flyer and the background paper on
<http://www.eufores.org/index.php?id=97>

Notes: Energy efficiency: Europe's biggest energy resource

Negajoules represent energy not consumed because of enhanced energy efficiency. The figure taken from the European Commission Green paper on Energy Efficiency (2005) shows that *negajoules*, despite a decreased focus from the EU, Governments and stakeholders on energy efficiency and energy conservation in the last years, is the biggest energy source of EU 25 - ahead of oil, gas, coal and nuclear.

Figure 1: Development of primary energy and negajoules (EU-25)

