



"The voice of crafts and SMEs in Europe"

UEAPME supports the Parliament's push on Microgeneration

The voted text recognises SMEs an important role as small-scale energy generators

Brussels, 12 September 2013 – UEAPME, the European craft and SME employers' organisation, welcomed to a large extent the voting on a Motion for a Resolution, initiated by MEP Judith Merkies on behalf of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy of the European Parliament. In particular, UEAPME is satisfied with this initiative that complements the existing and dispersed provisions on Microgeneration in the different EU energy laws and especially favours the recognition of SMEs as small energy producers and the need to empower them to take up this role. Although the text is a good attempt in boosting the uptake of Microgeneration at EU level, it will be a lost opportunity without the right follow-up measures.

With this "Resolution on Microgeneration – small-scale electricity and heat generation", the Parliament calls on the EU institutions and Member States to take note of the important role that Microgeneration plays in the promotion of decentralised energy generation, in ensuring energy supply and combating energy poverty in the EU.

Indeed, UEAPME welcomes this initiative as small-scale energy generation (microgeneration) is insufficiently tackled by the existing EU energy legislation and thus, proved very much needed. The text calls for the current financial and regulatory barriers to be addressed so as to make possible a large uptake of microgeneration by different "prosumers", among them SMEs. *"Enabling SMEs to produce small quantities of energy for their own use or for the use of their communities will definitely be beneficial for small businesses, local employment and for the climate as a whole"*, said Sustainable Development Director **Guido Lena**.

UEAPME also agrees with the inclusive and sustainable approach of the text in terms of different technologies without favouring a technology in particular. *"This text is a very good step in boosting the uptake of Microgeneration at EU level and thus UEAPME calls on the Commission to take the lead in this area and to closely work with Member States in tackling the existing infrastructural, financial and regulatory barriers"* concluded Mr. Lena.

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EDITORS' NOTES: UEAPME is the employers' organisation representing exclusively crafts, trades and SMEs from the EU and accession countries at European level. UEAPME has 80 member organisations covering over 12 million enterprises with 55 million employees. UEAPME is a European Social Partner. For further information please visit <http://www.ueapme.com/> or follow [@UEAPME](https://twitter.com/UEAPME) on Twitter.

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