



**Directorate-General
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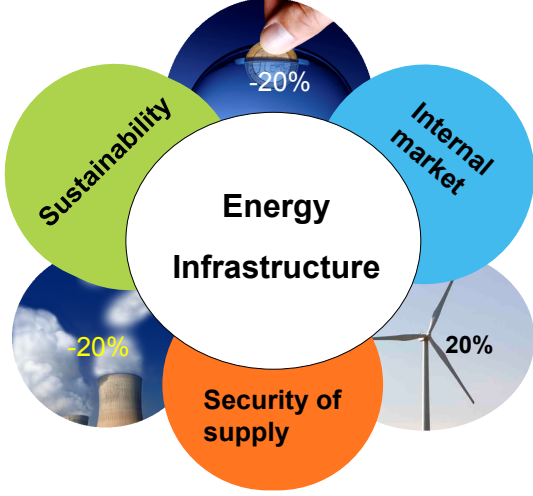
Political Leadership: Accelerating Permit Granting Procedures and Increasing Public Acceptance

The regulation on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure


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Infrastructure is at the heart of our energy and climate policy goals



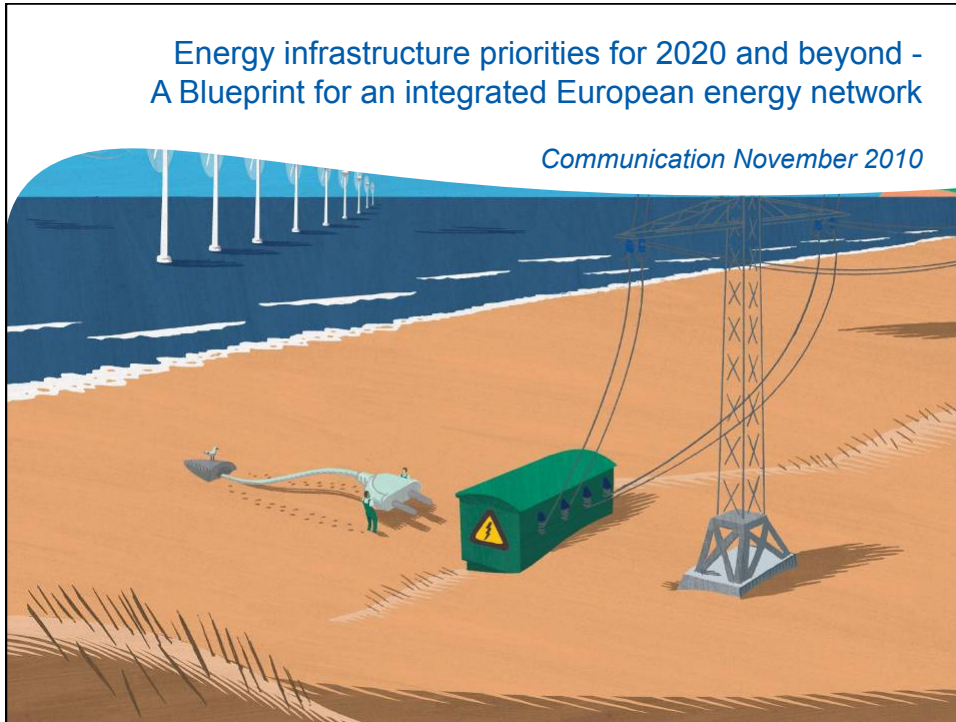
Included under the flagship initiative "Resource efficient Europe"



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The legislative proposals of the package

Regulation on the Guidelines on energy infrastructure

TEN-Transport guidelines

Broadband and digital infrastructure guidelines

CEF

Three sectoral infrastructure policy proposals

Connecting Europe Facility:

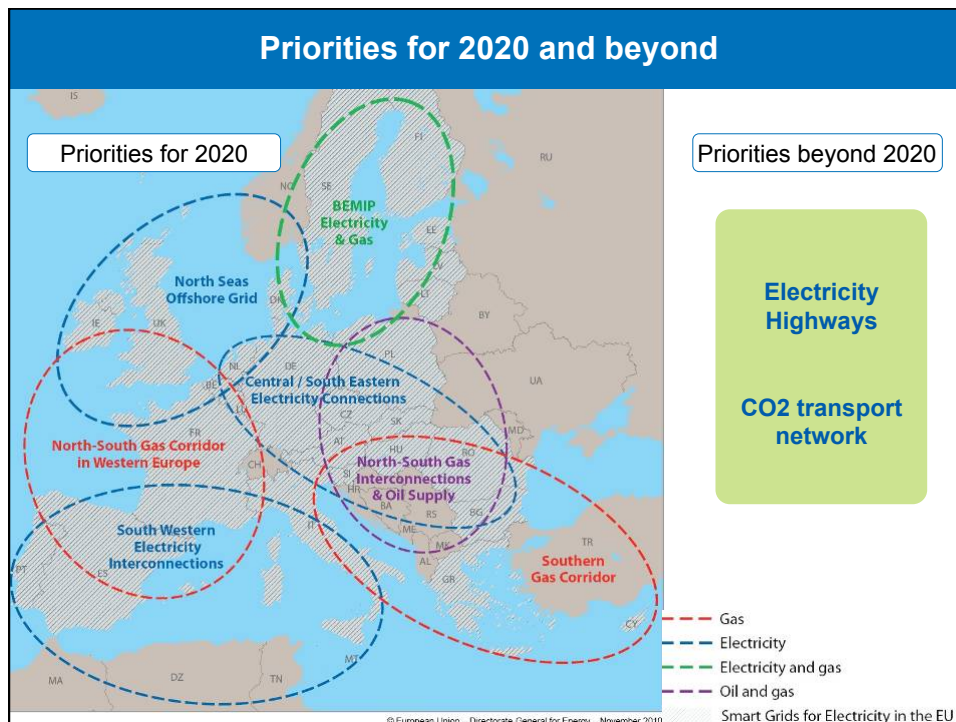
- Budget EUR
- Energy – 9.12bn**
- Transport – 30bn
- ICT – 9.1bn

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Regulation on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure

- Implementation of 12 priority corridors/areas, necessary to meet EU's energy and climate policy goals by 2020 and beyond...
- ...by providing policy and regulatory certainty through a stable and appropriate regulatory framework to promote the necessary investments.



Measures to facilitate the implementation of projects of common interest

- » Regulatory treatment – cost-benefit analysis, cross-border cost allocation, regulatory incentives
- » Financing – Connecting Europe Facility
- » **Permit granting and public participation**

ARGUMENTS AGAINST-



Permit granting and public participation – Challenges identified

Delays beyond
ten years from
first planning
until final
commissioning

Due to

Inefficient administrative procedures

- Complex and fragmented process
- Lack of upfront planning and coordination
- Lack of time limits

Opposition of affected population

- Uncertainty about the necessity and benefits of the project
- Impacts on environment and landscape, health and safety
- Late and lack of involvement of the public and stakeholders

Permit granting – regime of common interest

Underlying concept:

*Streamlining administrative procedures by cutting
superfluous bureaucracy,
while improving conditions for public participation by
'frontloading' the decision-making process.*

*No compromises on environmental standards and
democratic principles!*

Permit granting – regime of common interest Tackling the administrative procedures... (1)

● Priority status for PCIs

- » Highest national significance possible
- » Establishment of public interest and necessity in Member States
- » Most preferential treatment in administrative processing
- » Streamlining of EIA procedures

● Competent Authority to coordinate and deliver permit granting process (“one-stop shop”)

- » Choice to MS: Integrated or coordinated scheme
- » Cross-border cooperation between authorities
- » Efficient handling of appeals

Permit granting – regime of common interest Tackling the administrative procedures... (2)

● 3 years time limit for the permit granting decision (not including legal recourse procedures)

- » 2-stage process: Pre-application & statutory procedures
- » Mandatory scoping for information to be submitted
- » Cross-border permit granting schedules
- » Reporting requirements if deadline expires

Permit granting – regime of common interest Improving public participation...

- **Increased transparency and enhanced public participation**
 - » Manual of procedures
 - » Concept for public participation
 - » Early public consultation and summary report for lessons learnt
 - » Publication requirements, including website



Permit granting – regime of common interest Improving public participation...

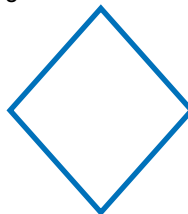
Broad public dialogue at all levels is crucial!

Political leadership

- European level
- national level
- regional and local levels

NGOs support

Citizens
participation



Authorities
engagement

Measures beyond legislation to improve permit granting & public acceptance

- Awareness-raising through **communication campaigns**
- **Best-practice sharing** on permit granting and public participation for authorities and project promoters
- **EU Guidance** for the adequate and coherent application of **environmental legislation**

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ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE 2011 | 15



Thank you for your attention!