



LOCAL ENERGY COMPANIES WELCOME EU EFFICIENCY DEAL

GEODE welcomes the recently agreed Energy Efficiency Directive (EED), which secured support from EU politicians on 15 June. GEODE congratulates the Danish Presidency, the Parliament and the Commission on the efforts made to reach an agreement in this important and ambitious legislation in a relatively short time period.

GEODE believes energy efficiency to be a cornerstone of Europe's climate protection and energy policy. GEODE Chairman Reinhard Brehmer stated:

“The crucial role that will be played by Distribution System Operators in helping consumers reduce their energy consumption. In particular, local DSOs are trusted because of the close relationship they maintain with consumers and the local energy infrastructure, which ensures an excellent standard of communication.”

Furthermore, DSOs are, in most European countries (UK and Germany being two notable exceptions), responsible for the necessary metering technology to verify, evaluate and monitor the success of efficiency measures.

The EED contains good starting points to encourage energy efficiency further as well as developing co-generation. The greater flexibility introduced regarding the provision on energy efficiency obligation schemes, (Art. 6) both for timeframe and the measures to be adopted by Member States, is in particular welcomed by GEODE.

According to Mr Brehmer:

“GEODE strongly supports the roll-out of Smart Meters under the Third Energy Package and calls for national regulatory authorities to ensure that network tariffs and regulations properly incentivise the roll-out and other improvements in efficiencies. This will encourage investments in smarter networks, enabling the integration of renewables into the grid, and dynamic prices for demand response measures.”

GEODE - The Voice of Local Energy Distributors across Europe represents more than 600 energy companies in 13 European countries.

Brussels 3 July 2012