



**CONCERTED ACTION
ENERGY EFFICIENCY
DIRECTIVE**

Metering and Billing Current Status and Issues

Executive Summary

WGR 3.1

**Core Theme 3
Working Group Report 1**

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The energy market is changing. Recently, many modifications have been made to European Union legislation, mainly to define rules and measures to ensure competition and proper consumer protection in the energy market.

Discussions among the CA EED participants, with representatives generally from energy agencies and parts of public ministries relevant to the energy sector, highlighted the existing variances in MS interpretation of Articles 9, 10, 11 and Annex VII of the EED. The main goal was to get an overview of what is considered as compliance with Article 9, 10 and 11 and Annex VII of Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency (hereafter the "EED" or "the Directive") in the Member States (MS).

Metering and Billing

One conclusion from discussions was that there are many different metering and billing situations in the EU for the five different energy products (Electricity, Natural Gas, District Heating & Cooling, and Domestic Hot Water). The implementation of the Directive for electricity can be achieved in the short-term for almost all MS. In some MS, the costs and technical difficulties regarding natural gas are more evident and may bring unexpected additional challenges. Regarding district heat, cooling and hot water, there seems to be a high degree of difficulty if EED is interpreted that a meter should be installed for all single end-users instead of all final customers.

The general opinion of CA EED participants was that the current feedback for final customers and the definition of 'technically possible, financially reasonable and proportionate' is not satisfactory. MS need more details about which feedback actually leads to energy savings and a clear definition of what is 'technically possible, financially reasonable and proportionate'. According to some CA EED participants without agreement on standards or criteria for consistent usage of these stipulations, the MS may use these stipulations as an 'escape route' to avoid taking action. Therefore, joint development of standards or criteria for consistent usage of these stipulations is recommended. However some CA EED participants also saw the possibility to assess technical possibility, financial reasonable and proportionality important to avoid ineffective investments compared to the results achieved which often are country specific. These issues need to be addressed further.

Regarding district heat, cooling and hot water, the local situations and views on implementing the metering and billing stipulation vary strongly between MS and it is not possible to give a clear overview on these implementation processes based on current information. Therefore, more effort to retrieve information from MS to construct a 'blueprint' of district heat, cooling and hot water situations for the EU-27 is recommended. An important result of CA EED participants discussions is the recommendation that for heat, cooling and hot water, the individual meters should take into account both volume and temperature.

Although Article 11 defines that bills and billing information for customers should be free of charge, most CA EED participants do not expect that energy companies will act accordingly. Therefore, it is relevant to discuss if extra or other regulation is necessary to prevent suppliers charging customers via other tariffs.

Smart Meters Roll Out

MS show a broadly similar interpretation of the relationship between the EED and smart metering: there is a clear link between the roll out of smart meters and the relevant metering and billing stipulations in the EED. The roll out of smart meters has a direct impact on costs and benefits and on technical aspects of the various stipulations in Articles 9, 10 and 11. As the roll out of smart meters is rapidly developing in many MS it is a challenge to define the exact impact of smart meter roll outs on the EED articles.

Regarding information supplied to end users about the potential advantages of smart meters, MS have different market models resulting in different tasks for different parties. Therefore, it is relevant to explore if there will be complications if the party that should provide information is not the same party that installs the meter.

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For further information please visit www.eed-ca.eu or contact the CA EED Coordinator Lucinda Maclagan at lucinda.maclagan@agentschapnl.nl



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