



Paris, 31 March 2009

European Parliament vote on the Third Energy Package gives regulators greater authority

Following negotiations with the other EU institutions, the European Parliament's Committee on Industry, Transport, Research and Energy (ITRE) voted in favour of strengthening the authority of Europe's energy regulators. It also voted to set up the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER).

Philippe de Ladoucette, Chairman of the CRE, said: "the ITRE committee's vote is a vital step toward achieving the internal electricity and gas market."

This vote gives national regulators the power to monitor the independence of system operators, particularly insofar as regards application of the rules relative to professional conduct and investment. With the set-up of the new European agency, the ITRE Committee's decision provides an official framework for cooperation between regulators. It will make it possible to oversee the development of network codes that will form the base for operations within the European energy market.

Link to ERGEG-CEER press release: [welcoming the compromise deal on the 3rd Package](#)

Founded on 24 March 2000, the French Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE) is an independent administrative body. It works to guarantee smooth and efficient operation of the electricity and natural gas markets for the benefit of the end-user. It also works to guarantee the absence of discriminatory practices, cross-subsidies or restrictions on competition.

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Appendix

Following today's vote by the ITRE Committee on the 3rd Package, key messages in the Press Release are:

- Improved process for developing EU-wide Network Codes
- Strong, independent regulators essential to ensure effective unbundling
- Agency's accountability to the European Parliament