

GME'S NEWSLETTER - New issue now on line

Rome, 14 February 2014 – The new issue of the Newsletter of Gestore dei Mercati Energetici (GME) is now downloadable from www.mercatoelettrico.org.

The newsletter opens with a contribution by Emanuele Vendramin (from RIE) about the new Climate-Energy Package discussed in these days by the European Commission. The package involves a cut of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of 40% from their 1990 levels by 2030 and a percentage of renewables in the European energy mix rising to 27%. Vendramin argues that the EU-28 has already curbed its GHG emissions by 18% from their 1990 levels and, under already implemented policies, further reductions of 24% by 2020 to 32% by 2030 are expected; the share of renewable energy in 2012 accounts for 13% of gross final consumption and, always on the basis of already implemented policies, it will reach 21% of the mix in 2020 and 24% in 2030. Hence, grants the expert from RIE, the new Climate-Energy Package targets are in line with the already existing reduction curve and not likely to call for significant additional efforts. Nevertheless, even before the publication of the proposed reform of the Climate-Energy Package, points out Vendramin, various lobbies had taken action: the energy-intensive industry with regard to the emission reduction target alone; and, to a lesser extent (35%), environmental associations, all asking for binding targets and a more ambitious emission reduction one (50-55%). However, considering what happened upon the approval of the previous 20-20-20 package, i.e. the fear that excessive costs might fall on European industry and citizens, after only five years we have instead witnessed none of this occurring. However, adds the expert from RIE, as is well known, upon the approval of the first Climate-Energy Package, Europe (and in particular Italy) was hit by macroeconomic events of unimaginable scale, which caused a sharp drop in consumption and income. This is the reason why - stresses Vendramin in his analysis - instead of repeating its past errors, the Commission



should have submitted a package of dynamic targets (e.g. a carbon intensity indicator) taking into account the real (and not estimated) scenario in which Europe will find itself in 2030. Conversely, the setting of a renewable energy target only at European level and not at national level appears to be more appropriate.

If we look at the past again, we can see that the setting of a triple target in the first Package has unquestionably resulted into overlapping policies that have strongly penalised the EU-ETS. Therefore, concludes Vendramin, we hope that, thanks to the lack of national targets, policies of support for renewables will be harmonised at European scale and that a more efficient level of support will be given to the different technologies. Nonetheless, this hope will materialise only if Member States reach a wide consensus not only on the climate and environmental policy, but also and above all on the economic and industrial policy.

The new issue also comes with the usual technical commentaries about national and European power exchanges and environmental markets, with the section devoted to the analysis of the Italian gas market trends and with the one providing insight into the main European commodity market trends.

As has become customary, the new publication also reports the summary data of the electricity market for the month of January-

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