

## EFIEES' views on the Parliament's position on the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) recast

Brussels, the 17<sup>th</sup> of March 2023

*EFIEES, the European Federation of Intelligent Energy Efficiency Services, is the voice of energy service companies (ESCOs) and their national associations across Europe. Our members represent over 100.000 professionals engaged in designing and implementing energy-efficient solutions in public and private buildings and industrial facilities. In some countries, they also ensure the efficient operation of district heating & cooling (DHC) networks.*

After several months of discussions in committees, the European Parliament has adopted its position on the **recast of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)** during its March Plenary Session. This position is mainly based on the ITRE committee compromise, as only five amendments to the report have been adopted during the plenary vote. **EFIEES welcomes the Parliament's position on the EPBD recast, which gives stronger tools and an ambitious timeline to decarbonise the building sector.**

The MEPs amendments to the Commission's proposal show a **better recognition of the Energy Efficiency First principle** notably by **further acknowledging the role of energy management solutions** in the decarbonisation of the building sector. The revision of the EPBD must indeed not only aim at improving buildings' energy performance through renovation actions but also strengthen the role of solutions allowing to keep and enhance energy performance over time, through proactive energy management. **With several new explicit references to Energy Performance Contracting**, especially within the definition of staged deep renovation, the Parliament's position clearly goes in the right direction, at a time when energy savings and buildings' decarbonisation have become not only environmental but also economic and social issues.

Another very good element in the Parliament's position is a **clear will to enhance district approach**. Some of the amendments adopted by the MEPs indeed go in this direction notably regarding the possibility to supply a Zero-Emission Building with energy coming from an Efficient District Heating and Cooling (EDHC) systems (as defined in the EED). If the provisions adopted still need to be improved during the trilogue negotiations, the Parliament's position already shows a better understanding of the crucial role of EDHC in the decarbonisation of the building sector.

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“We are pleased to see some **very good new elements** in the Parliament's position on the EPBD recast. The text voted in Plenary this week shows a better recognition of the Energy Efficiency first principle and a clear will to further support district approach. These very good elements **will now have to be safeguarded during the trilogue discussions**, which EFIEES will follow with a particular attention” says **Pascal Guillaume, EFIEES' president**.

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