



Empowering people for the smart energy system of the future
Final conference of the S3C project, 24.9.2015, Berlin

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

A new deal for energy consumers

Richard Hampton CEng MSc MIET

Policy Officer – integration of energy systems

Research & Innovation



POWER TO THE PEOPLE

A new deal for energy consumers

Intro:

Citizen Smith

Richard Hampton CEng MSc MIET

Policy Officer – integration of energy systems

Research & Innovation

In the old days...

All energy consumers were dumb!

- Plug in, switch on,*
- At the end of the month pay your bill.*

Customers were PASSIVE.

Why?

Neither the technology nor the regulatory framework existed then.

DSOs and energy suppliers focussed on their core business:

- *energy generation or their network business*
- *customers on the periphery*
- *educate suppliers too! > consumer centric*

Today

The world has changed and continues to change

- the climate is changing,*
- the politics are changing,*
- "friends" and neighbours are changing.*

So the energy customer must also change to ensure Europe continues to enjoy a safe, secure, affordable energy future.

A few numbers

- *Europe imports 53% of its energy (at a cost of about €400 billion a year)*
- *Scary!*

EU Targets:

- *Reduce energy use by $\geq 27\%$ by 2030*
- *Emit $\leq 40\%$ less greenhouse gases by 2030*

Be Smarter

Move to renewables part of the solution.

Also need to use what we have more effectively:

- *Network needs to become SMARTER*
- *Customers need to become SMARTER*
 - **How to engage public?**
 - **Energy is taken for granted in Europe**
 - **It's not sexy or desirable**
- *ACTIVE consumers*

Energy Union

The Energy Union Framework Strategy sets out the vision of an Energy Union "with citizens at its core, where citizens take ownership of the energy transition, benefit from new technologies to reduce their bills, participate actively in the market, and where vulnerable consumers are protected".

http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/energy-union/index_en.htm



A New Deal for Energy Consumers

In July, a new communication.

Three key points:

- *Empowering consumers to act*
- *Making smart homes and networks a reality*
- *Special attention to data management and protection*

<http://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/publications/new-deal-energy-consumers>

What's in it for the Commission?

Funding smart grids and smart energy projects:

- **No product or service**
- **Just the reports**
- **Dissemination of results is key**
- **How can we build on this work?**

Future Work

- *What do you see as the most pressing problems or barriers in this area?*
- *What work programmes should we fund in the future?*

I look forward to hearing your thoughts.



European
Commission

POWER TO THE PEOPLE!