

## **SCOPE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY DIRECTIVE MUST INCLUDE ALL TYPES OF ENERGY-EFFICIENT SOLUTIONS**

**Brussels, 2 March 2012: The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE) welcomes the strong support of the European Parliament's Industry, Research and Energy Committee for the energy efficiency 20/20/20 targets, but is disappointed to see that the role of all types of energy efficient and climate-friendly technologies has not been properly considered.**

Andrea Voigt, Director General of EPEE: *"We welcome parts of the Committee's report, such as the approach on pushing for more renovation of public buildings. However we see the Committee vote as a missed opportunity as it fails to adequately address the potential of different energy efficient technologies. At a time when the EU is struggling to reach its energy efficiency targets, the Committee has not taken into account the potential of all energy efficient technologies, such as heat pumps. There is clearly a need for a well-balanced legislative framework which provides a technology-neutral approach, based on energy efficiency criteria that are flexible enough to provide the best solutions for all local circumstances. By favouring certain technologies, the Committee's text risks blocking other energy efficient means which are vital for both Europe's environment and economy."*

In view of the upcoming trilogue negotiations, EPEE calls on the institutions to create a coherent framework in line with existing legislations, such as Renewable Energy Directive or EPBD, and without watering down their impact. A reference for a non-appropriate approach is e.g. Article 10 where currently explicit preference is given to district heating and cooling and cogeneration technologies instead of recognising the potential of onsite household applications, such as heat pumps.

The heating, cooling, air-conditioning and refrigeration (HVACR) sector has the potential to make a tremendous contribution to a low-carbon economy and is continuously investing in new technologies. The industry thus needs a flexible political framework as a key driver for technological innovation in order to foster both environmental benefits and help drive economic growth and competitiveness.

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### **Notes to the Editor:**

The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE) represents the refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat pump industry in Europe. Founded in the year 2000, EPEE's membership is composed of 40 member companies and national associations across Europe realising a turnover of over 30 billion Euros and employing more than 200,000 people in Europe. As an expert association, EPEE is supporting safe, environmentally and economically viable technologies with the objective of promoting a better understanding of the sector in the EU and contributing to the development of effective European policies. For more information please visit: [www.epeeglobal.org](http://www.epeeglobal.org)

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