Open public consultation on the revision of Regulation (EU) 347/2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure (TEN-E Regulation)

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

EU rules on the Trans-European Networks for Energy – the TEN-E Regulation

The European Green Deal confirms the EU’s ambition to be climate neutral by 2050 and outlines a wide range of measures in different policy areas which need to be revised or newly introduced in order to meet this objective. In the energy sector, one of the key aims is to ensure that our energy infrastructure is fit for the purpose of achieving climate neutrality. In this sense, the Green Deal highlights the importance of smart infrastructure in this transition and specifically identifies the need to review and update the EU regulatory framework for energy infrastructure, including the Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure (the "TEN-E Regulation"), to ensure consistency with the 2050 climate neutrality objective. As part of the political agreement between the European Parliament and the Council on the Connecting Europe Facility for the period 2021-2027 – the part of the EU budget which funds cross-border infrastructure projects for energy, transport and digital services – it was already agreed that the Commission should evaluate the effectiveness and policy coherence of the TEN-E Regulation. This revision of the TEN-E Regulation will also address the new policy ambition of the European Green Deal inter alia by integrating a significant increase in renewable energy in the European energy system and by putting the energy efficiency first principle into practice. More information on the European Green Deal is available on the Europa website.

The TEN-E Regulation lays down rules for the timely development and interoperability of cross-border energy infrastructure [TEN-E] networks in order to achieve the EU’s energy policy objectives. Its key objective is the timely implementation of the projects of common interest (known as “PCIs”) which interconnect the energy markets across Europe. Interconnected energy markets allow for better integration of renewable energy sources, better security of supply and higher competition within markets that keeps prices in check. The TEN-E Regulation sets out criteria for establishing the PCIs necessary to implement priority corridors and areas in the categories of electricity, gas, oil, smart grids, and carbon dioxide networks.

More information on the TEN-E network is available on the Europa website.

WHAT IS THIS QUESTIONNAIRE ABOUT?

This public consultation is part of a wider consultation strategy which feeds into the evaluation and impact assessment process. In line with EU rules on better regulation, the aim of the consultation is to gather the views of EU citizens and stakeholders on the TEN-E Regulation. This public consultation aims to collect input on what
should be viewed as the priority corridors and priority thematic areas. In addition, the TEN-E Regulation was
designed to help overcome some of the key barriers to the development of European wide energy infrastructure
such as permit granting, at the same time ensuring better public consultations in this process. The key questions
asked therefore concern the extent to which it has achieved these objectives. The result would help to set up the
policy objectives of the Regulation and options on how to improve the current shortcomings.

This questionnaire is addressed to citizens and organisations (e.g. NGOs, local government, local
communities, companies and industry associations) that have no specialist knowledge of the TEN-E
Regulation.

If you have specialist knowledge of the TEN-E Regulation (e.g. as a professional for a national competent /
regulatory authority, TSO, DSO, company project promoter, energy producer, NGO with specific knowledge
on the subject) and you are aware of issues like the energy infrastructure priority corridors and thematic
areas, criteria for selection of PCIs, regulatory regimes and incentives, you are invited to fill in the targeted
survey - available here - which is taking place in parallel to this one. [NB. There is no problem for
professionals to answer both questionnaires.]

INFORMATION ON THE QUESTIONNAIRE
This Online Public Consultation questionnaire is structured as follows:

- Introduction: This part will ask you to provide information about yourself.
- Part I: Relevance and EU added value (your view on Europe’s energy infrastructure needs and
  objectives)
- Part II: Public participation and transparency (your view on how information on energy infrastructure
  projects should be shared by project promoters).

The questionnaire should take you no more than 15 – 20 minutes to complete.

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

THE RESULTS
The consultation period will last eight weeks. Once the evaluation of the TEN-E Regulation is completed, a synopsis
report of all consultation activities will be published.

YOUR OPINION REALLY MATTERS
Thank you in advance for taking the time to contribute to this consultation.

About you

* Language of my contribution
  - Bulgarian
  - Croatian
  - Czech
  - Danish
  - Dutch
  - English
  - Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- Gaelic
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish

* I am giving my contribution as
  - Academic/research institution
  - Business association
  - Company/business organisation
  - Consumer organisation
  - EU citizen
  - Environmental organisation
  - Non-EU citizen
  - Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
  - Public authority
  - Trade union
  - Other

* First name
  Sanjeev

* Surname
• Email (this won't be published)

s.kumar@egec.org

• Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

EGEC

• Organisation size

Micro (1 to 9 employees)
Small (10 to 49 employees)
Medium (50 to 249 employees)
Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

255 character(s) maximum

Check if your organisation is on the transparency register. It’s a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

11458103335-07

• Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

Afghanistan
Åland Islands
Albania
Algeria
American Samoa
Andorra
Angola

Djibouti
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea

Libya
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Macau
Madagascar
Malawi

Saint Martin
Saint Pierre and Miquelon
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Samoa
San Marino
São Tomé and Príncipe
Saudi Arabia
Anguilla
Antarctica
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Armenia
Aruba
Australia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Bahamas
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Barbados
Belarus
Belgium
Belize
Benin
Bermuda
Bhutan
Bolivia
Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Botswana
Bouvet Island
Eritrea
Estonia
Eswatini
Ethiopia
Falkland Islands
Faroe Islands
Fiji
Finland
France
French Guiana
French Polynesia
French Southern and Antarctic Lands
Gabon
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Gibraltar
Greece
Greenland
Grenada
Guadeloupe
Guam
Guatemala
Guernsey
Malaysia
Maldives
Mali
Malta
Marshall Islands
Martinique
Mauritania
Mauritius
Mayotte
Mexico
Micronesia
Moldova
Monaco
Mongolia
Montenegro
Montserrat
Morocco
Mozambique
Myanmar/Burma
Namibia
Nauru
Nepal
Netherlands
New Caledonia
Senegal
Serbia
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Singapore
Sint Maarten
Slovakia
Slovenia
Solomon Islands
Somalia
South Africa
South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
South Korea
South Sudan
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Suriname
Svalbard and Jan Mayen
Sweden
Switzerland
Syria
Taiwan
Tajikistan
Brazil
British Indian Ocean Territory
British Virgin Islands
Brunei
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cambodia
Cameroon
Canada
Cape Verde
Cayman Islands
Central African Republic
Chad
Chile
China
Christmas Island
Clipperton
Cocos (Keeling) Islands
Colombia
Comoros
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana
Haiti
Heard Island and McDonald Islands
Honduras
Hong Kong
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Iran
Iraq
Ireland
Isle of Man
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Jersey
Jordan
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria
Niue
Norfolk Island
Northern Mariana Islands
North Korea
North Macedonia
Norway
Oman
Pakistan
Palau
Palestine
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Pitcairn Islands
Poland
Tanzania
Thailand
The Gambia
Timor-Leste
Togo
Tokelau
Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Turks and Caicos Islands
Tuvalu
Uganda
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States
United States Minor Outlying Islands
Uruguay
US Virgin Islands
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anonymous</th>
<th>Public</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Only your type of respondent, country of origin and contribution will be published. All other personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number) will not be published.</td>
<td>Your personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number, country of origin) will be published with your contribution.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

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**Part I: Relevance and EU added value**

In this section, we would like to ask you some questions regarding your perceptions on the current and emerging needs of trans-European energy infrastructure networks.
How would you rate the importance of the following objectives for trans-European energy infrastructure networks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Important to a large extent</th>
<th>Important to a small extent</th>
<th>Not important</th>
<th>I don't know</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* A competitive and properly functioning integrated energy market</td>
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<td>* Increased resilience of energy infrastructure against technical failures, natural or man-made disasters, and the adverse effects of climate change and threats to its security</td>
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<td>* Consumer empowerment - making sure consumers’ interests are considered in decisions related to energy infrastructure</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Secure and diversified EU energy supplies, sources, and routes</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Integration of renewable energy sources into the grid</td>
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<td>* Increase cross-border interconnections and deepen regional cooperation to transport energy from renewable sources where it is most needed</td>
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<td>* Giving priority to energy efficiency (putting the ‘Energy efficiency first’ principle in practice)</td>
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<td>* Achieving the EU’s decarbonisation objectives for 2030 and 2050, including climate neutrality under the European Green Deal</td>
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<td>* Increased digitalisation of the energy infrastructure (e.g. Smart Grids)</td>
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<td>* Energy system integration and sector coupling (integration of the different energy sectors and beyond)</td>
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</table>

Which of the following infrastructure categories do you consider relevant for the regulatory framework on trans-European energy networks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Relevant</th>
<th>Relevant to a large extent</th>
<th>Relevant to a small extent</th>
<th>Not relevant</th>
<th>I don't know</th>
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</table>

8
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infrastructure Category</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Important to a large extent</th>
<th>Important to a small extent</th>
<th>Not important</th>
<th>I don't know</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electricity infrastructure (transmission lines and storage)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grids for offshore renewable energy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smart electricity grids</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smart gas grids</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural gas infrastructure (pipelines and storage)</td>
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<td>Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals</td>
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<td>Dedicated hydrogen (H2) networks</td>
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<td>Infrastructure for the integration of renewable and carbon neutral gases</td>
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<td>Power-to-gas installations</td>
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<td>CO2 networks (for transporting CO2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geological storage of CO2</td>
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</table>

In case you are aware of other emerging energy infrastructure categories, which you consider relevant for the regulatory framework on trans-European energy networks, please, describe them below:

This question ignores local heating and cooling networks, thermal storage and utilisation of European heat reservoirs and basins, electricity distribution grids, smart demand response. All solutions eligible for support under TEN-E should be future-proof, and the required levels of investment should be compared with investment costs of other existing and proven decarbonisation options.

Which features do you consider the most important for a project of common interest (PCI) as part of trans-European energy network?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Important to a large extent</th>
<th>Important to a small extent</th>
<th>Not important</th>
<th>I don't know</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Integration of renewable energy sources into the grid</td>
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<td>Contribution to greenhouse gas emissions reduction</td>
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<td>Security of supply</td>
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<td>Market integration (e.g. to improve infrastructure and increase system flexibility)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feature</td>
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<td>Increase competition in the market</td>
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<td>Innovation</td>
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<td>Contribution to increase the energy efficiency of the energy system</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmentally sound implementation, i.e., compliance with the relevant regulations especially in the area of environmental impact assessment, water protection, nature conservation and air quality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Generation of direct benefits to the local communities</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

To what extent do you agree with the following statement: The development of trans-European energy networks cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States alone and can therefore be better achieved through coordination at EU level?

- Fully agree
- Agree to a large extent
- Agree to a small extent
- Disagree
- I don't know

Do you agree that the revised TEN-E Regulation can make an important contribution to the economic recovery in Europe through a green transition in response to the COVID-19 crisis?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Please explain your response (optional)

Network/infrastructuel projects are long-term investment which take time to plan and construct. In the medium to short-run they make a significant contribution to recovery. Geothermal district heating has proven to lower household energy costs. In France, ADEME, the French environment agency, found that geothermal district heating cost €15 MWh compared to fossil gas which cost €61 MWh. This gives households more spending money to facilitate recovery and investment in the local economy.

Part II: Public participation and transparency
Below we ask you questions regarding the participation of the public and local communities in the permit granting process for Projects of Common Interest (PCIs) and the transparency of the PCIs.

Despite the existence of established standards and procedures for the participation of the public in the environmental decision-making process, the TEN-E Regulation states that additional measures are needed to ensure the highest possible standards of transparency and public participation for all relevant issues in the permit granting process for projects of common interest. Enhancing public participation is among the key objectives of the Regulation. Under the current rules, the public consultation aims to inform relevant stakeholders (the appropriate national, regional and local authorities, landowners and citizens living in the vicinity of the project, the general public and their associations, organisations or groups) about the project at an early stage in order to help identify the most suitable location or trajectory and address all the relevant issues in the project application.

Are you aware of any Projects of Common Interest (PCI) in Europe?
- Yes, I am aware of one or several PCIs
- Yes, I am aware that there are PCIs, but I do not know any details about them
- No

Please, share which PCIs you are aware of?

4th PCI list.

Are you aware that there is a public participation process with regards to PCIs?
- Yes, I am aware of the procedure and its specifics
- Yes, I am aware that there is a procedure, but I do not know how it works in practice
- No

Have you been involved in a public participation process with regards to any PCIs?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes, once</th>
<th>Yes, several times</th>
<th>No, never</th>
<th>I don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have you visited the website of a PCI?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you seen the information leaflet of a PCI?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you participated in meetings dedicated to a PCI?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you provided feedback on a PCI during any consultation phase?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Do you consider the public participation process useful?
- Yes
To a large extent
- To a small extent
- No
- I don't know

Please explain your answer

Yes it is useful if there is a real contribution to advocate about specific relevant topics as well as the real implementation of the “energy efficiency first” principle, crucial for long term infrastructures granted by public money.

If you have never participated in the public participation process of a PCI, please indicate why not.

☐ I was not aware of the notion of PCIs
☐ I was not aware of the opportunity to take part in the public consultation process
☐ I was not interested in this topic
☐ The level of technicalities in the published information (e.g. on the project website, leaflet) was too complicated for me to provide meaningful feedback
☐ I did not think that my feedback would be considered
☐ Other reasons

Please explain your answer

The focus of the existing TEN-E on ENTSO E and G limits the possibility for other stakeholders to be associated to the identification of PCIs.

How would you assess the usefulness of the following communication channels for providing and exchanging information on PCIs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very useful</th>
<th>Useful to a large extent</th>
<th>Useful to a small extent</th>
<th>Not useful</th>
<th>I don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project website</strong> (with information such as a detailed implementation schedule, a link to the manual of public participation procedures, a non-technical and regularly updated summary, public consultation planning, contact details)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Information leaflet** (up to 15 pages, giving, in a clear and concise manner, an overview of the purpose and preliminary timetable of the project, the national grid development plan, alternative routes considered, expected impacts, including of cross-border nature, and possible mitigation measures)

**Meetings** to discuss the project of common interest

**Providing information in writing** (from the project promoter to the public and vice versa)

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Do you have any suggestions for other useful communication tools that could be created at local, national, and/or European level?

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In line with the requirements of the TEN-E Regulation, the Commission established an infrastructure transparency platform easily accessible to the general public, including via the internet, with the purpose of providing information on current PCIs in an open, transparent and interactive way.

Are you familiar with the PCI interactive map on the Transparency Platform?

- Yes
- Yes, to a large extent
- Yes, to a small extent
- No

How would you assess the PCI interactive map on the Transparency Platform, which includes the geographic information, implementation plan, amount of EU financial support and the benefits that each project brings at national and local level?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fully</th>
<th>To a large extent</th>
<th>To a small extent</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>I don't know</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comprehensive</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Up-to-date</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Provided in a simple language</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Easy to navigate</strong></td>
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Please explain your answer(s) to the above question on the PCI interactive map
1. There is no information on heating infrastructure and heat reservoirs/basins in the interactive map
2. There is no information on the CO2e intensity or savings enabled by the different infrastructure.
3. There is no information about the usage rates of infrastructure. For example, what is the capacity and usage rate of LNG terminals? This helps inform stakeholders on the effectiveness and efficiency of public financing for PCI infrastructure.

Have you observed any improvement in the transparency of the planning and building process of any PCIs in comparison to other energy infrastructure projects?

- Yes
- To a large extent
- To a small extent
- No
- I don’t know

Please share any other recommendations that would contribute to an enhanced/strengthened participation of the public in TEN-E energy infrastructure planning and building.

1. The process to identify PCI projects needs to be expanded to provide a seat for renewable heating and cooling regulators and network providers to co-design infrastructure needs and associated scenarios rather than comment on them towards the end of the process.

2. The European Parliament needs more than an opportunity to reject an entire list. The most optimal solutions is that each PCI list is submitted separately (for electricity, smart grids, renewable heating and fossil oil and gas. Otherwise, the Parliament should be able to amend any collection of projects or seek additional information prior to their approval.

Documents upload and final comments

If you have further comments, please feel free to upload a concise document. The maximum file size is 1 MB.

The uploaded document will be published alongside your response to the questionnaire which is the essential input to this public consultation. The document is optional and serves as additional background reading to better understand your position.

Please upload your file

The maximum file size is 1 MB
Only files of the type pdf, txt, doc, docx, odt, rtf are allowed

a8a62af5-2ada-41cf-abc3-7f9e92c30245/TEN-E_IIA_questoinnaire_additional_response.pdf
If you wish to add further information — within the scope of this questionnaire — please feel free to do so here

750 character(s) maximum

Thank you for your time and effort in answering this questionnaire.

Contact
ener-b1-projects@ec.europa.eu