From the Renovation Wave to EPBD: buildings regulations in Fitfor55

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The EU Renovation wave

• Focus on increasing overall renovation rate, notably deep energy renovation
  • Creating jobs, reducing emissions, reducing energy consumption
• Part of European Green Deal and EU Recovery Package

• **Goal**: 35 million additional building units renovated by 2030
“Fit for 55%”: changing paradigm

- To reach 55% GHG emission reduction, more efforts is needed on energy efficiency (38%) and RES (40%) deployment
- The building sector becomes a core segment of EU energy policy
- Policies must align with carbon neutrality by 2050
“Fit for 55%”: EED recast

- Statistical incentives towards HP: RES energy from HP excluded from primary energy accounting
- Reinforcement of measures on Heating and cooling assessment and planning
- Doubling of the rate of the Energy Savings obligation after 2023
- Specific measures to direct EE support to solve energy poverty

• EC proposal for a revised EPBD to be presented in December 2021

• Revision aims to align the EPBD with the Fit for 55% and the Renovation wave imperative

• The EPBD must also be revised towards internal consistency with the objective of decarbonisation of the EU’s building stock by 2050

• Reinforcement of Long Term Renovation Strategy
  • Bindingness and accountability in the Climate Governance framework?
  • More detailed planning of building energy renovation
• Upgrade of the focus of the EPBD towards Zero emission buildings
• Measures to prevent support to fossil boilers
• Upgraded requirements on new and deeply renovated buildings
• Minimum energy performance standards
• Greater focus on energy system integration
• Detailed measures to direct financing to building energy renovation
Case 1: The French RE2020

- Life cycle emission assessment of buildings including material use
- Greater emphasis on an efficient use of renewable energy
- Focus on future climate with “summer comfort” indicators
- No fossil fuels in new or deeply renovated
Case 2: The Flemish Scheme

• From 2023: buildings newly acquired must be upgraded from EPC E to D
  • Bindingness of measures is lauded, while level of ambition asks question on long term fossil lock in
• Dissonance with own Flemish objective of A rated building stock by 2050
Conclusion: Consistency with 2050 is key!

- Towards a 100% renewable and efficient energy system
- Only one full H&C replacement cycle between 2020 and 2050
- Lock in of the renewable heating and cooling market infrastructure must start today
- Fossil fuel phase out must start now
- Standards and planning must be consistent with 2050 early on