Important contribution of cogeneration on the path of Lithuania energy independency

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Cogeneration Roadmap for Lithuania published

A concrete target for the future development of the high efficient combined heat and power production (CHP) in Lithuania was published today. It was developed through a process of discussion and exchanges with national energy experts in the context of the European funded project CODE2[1]. Lithuania has more than doubled its CHP capacity mainly fuelled by the natural gas which after the shutdown of the Ignalina nuclear power plant contributes more than 35% of the domestic electricity generation. New energy strategy orientation on development of cogeneration on domestic renewable energy sources would significantly contribute to the decrease of electricity and natural gas import dependency and could provide more than 20% of the final electricity demand in the period till 2030.

To reach this target the report calls for action on:

- Preserving the long term stable, incentive and predictable legal framework for cogeneration on domestic renewable energy sources and waste to enable planned 355 MWe capacity of the biofuel CHP plants till 2020.
- Allocation of the adequate EU and public funds in the new financial perspective 2014 – 2020 for continuation of the investment subsidies for increasing efficiency of the district heating systems and switch to the renewable cogeneration.
- Total CHP electricity generation could be increased for at least 60% to more than 3 TWh by the new CHP plants in the district heating till 2030.
- The outcome for energy and environment policy would be up to 2.6 TWh of additional primary energy savings and 1.2 million tonnes of CO_2 emission reduction.

The Combined production of Heat and Power (CHP) is a key element to make energy generation in Europe more efficient and climate friendly. By developing National Cogeneration Roadmaps for 27 EU Member States plus the EU as a whole, the CODE 2 project highlights the barriers still remaining for CHP in Europe. The roadmaps look at the policy framework, market conditions and awareness around cogeneration in Europe and propose a way forward for the sector that contributes to Europe's 2020 and 2030 energy and climate goals.

Cogeneration is the key technology that can significantly contribute to the major Lithuanian strategic energy goals: sustainable, efficient and competitive supply of electricity and district heat within an increased energy independence by the prevailing use of the domestic renewable energy sources.

Paying special attention to the implementation of the European Union´s Energy Efficiency Directive, the project outlines a path towards realising the EU's cogeneration potential, and seeks to accelerate cogeneration's penetration into industry by highlighting key markets and policy interactions around cogeneration.

The CODE 2 project is delivering its final results this year and they are being published on the project website (www.code2-project.eu). CODE 2 is co-funded by the European Commission's Intelligent Energy Europe programme.

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