

The smarter E Europe

Munich, June 19-21, 2024

THE SMARTER E EUROPE: STATEMENT PAPER

Patrick Clemens | General Secretary, ESEA

“The energy storage sector prioritises creating a fair, forward-looking, and sustainable energy market design that recognises storage as a crucial element of the energy system. This approach aims to bridge the gap between EU policymakers and energy storage stakeholders. The European Association for Storage of Energy (EASE), together with its members, promotes the entire energy storage value chain, which is essential for a decarbonised energy system. Mr. Patrick Clemens, with a background in Law, previously worked as a consultant for a private company specialising in European Affairs in Brussels. Since 2003, he has been involved in the climate and energy sector, serving as the Brussels Representative for various European associations. He has managed the EASE office in Brussels as Secretary General since its establishment in September 2011. Since then, EASE has grown from the initial 13 founding members to over 70. It is important that topics surround key issues such as ensuring a 24/7 renewable energy supply and the global renewable industry are discussed the Smarter E conference.”

Maciej Mazur | President, AVERE - The European Association for Electromobility

“What does it mean to be part of the world of electromobility? For one, there is a dynamic market; for another, there is a new sense of urgency for increased sustainability; and lastly, there is a challenging legislative environment. As members of this ever-changing sector, we have truly grasped the concept of being the driving force for meaningful change. We stand for transformation, decarbonisation, and innovation—a pole position we can be proud of. As AVERE—the European Association for Electromobility—we have been part of this journey and its challenges for many years. Today, e-mobility is one of the most important global trends. We count electric cars in millions and public charging points in hundreds of thousands. More and more entities are developing their products and services in this area, and the market is worth tens of billions of EUR. We are very pleased to be part of such an important event as Smarter E Europe. We are particularly pleased that the amount of space occupied by entities involved in the development of zero-emission transport is increasing year by year. This year, it is especially important to emphasize the crucial role that Europe plays in the development of this sector. We want to be a global leader, and to achieve this, an ambitious industrial policy is needed. I am convinced that the automotive sector, which was the pride of Europe throughout the 20th century, will also be the driving force of the European economy in the 21st century. Smarter E Europe confirms that we are heading in the right direction.”

Walburger Hemetsberger | CEO, SolarPower Europe

“Solar energy has seen tremendous growth in recent years, with over 100 GW installed in the last two years. That’s equal to powering more than 30 million more European homes with clean and reliable energy. However, we must not become complacent. To sustain this growth, we must address several critical bottlenecks. We need the right infrastructure to support further renewable electrification. This involves not only investing in the modernisation of our electricity grid at both the transmission and distribution levels but also ensuring the necessary flexibility. Accelerating the deployment of

battery storage is crucial, and regulations must allow storage services to reach their full potential. Financing for green projects must be streamlined. Capital is available; it just needs to be directed towards sustainable initiatives. We must diversify our supply chains and restore Europe's leadership in solar manufacturing. Achieving these goals requires bold political decisions. We urge political leaders to prioritise Europe's prosperity and security by delivering the pioneering Green Deal, which must form the foundation of the next EU mandate."

Rana Adib | Executive Director, REN21

"Volatile electricity prices, inflation, supply chain disruptions, and high cost of capital continue to reshape the global energy system. While governments have promoted renewables for energy security and sustainability with policies boosting manufacturing and deployment, the market is distorted by massive fossil fuel subsidies - USD 600 billion in 2023. Momentum nonetheless continues to build: 86% of power capacity additions last year were renewable, with solar PV and wind seeing significant additions in major economies.

But electricity is only a small part of the story. Nearly half of all energy consumption is in the form of direct heat, followed by fuels with a 30% share. Our climate and development goals will remain out of reach unless we transition to renewables across all energy carriers and demand sectors, yet progress on heat and fuels is alarmingly limited.

Governments must now replicate the success of the power sector in heat and fuels by setting ambitious targets and developing policies to align demand with supply. This necessitates collaborative long-term planning involving all sectors and stakeholders, along with massive investment in the grid infrastructure and storage needed to unlock higher shares of renewables across the entire economy."

Kristian Ruby | Secretary General, eurelectric

"Europe's distribution grids need to be urgently modernised to enable massive decarbonised electrification, integrate renewables and withstand more frequent extreme weather and cyber threats. Eurelectric's Grids for Speed study shows that distribution grid investments should increase from an average of €33 billion to €67 billion per year from 2025 to 2050, roughly 20% of what the EU spent on fossil fuel imports in 2023. Getting the grid up to speed also depends on a digital-ready infrastructure. Scaling grid investments and digitalisation is critical to accelerate electrification and help the EU save €309 billion every year on fossil fuel imports from 2040 to 2050 while delivering reliable and decarbonised power to European businesses and households. To succeed, grid operators must be supported by clear regulation to invest proactively and make their business go digital. National authorities should therefore implement the agreed legislation – such as anticipatory investments – while adapting the regulatory regime to support the investment surge. This means eliminating investments caps, fast-tracking grid permitting and de-risking investments to spur private funding while allowing public financing through EU budget. Eurelectric calls on policymakers both at national and regional level to secure grid investments, foster digitalisation and unleash the societal benefits of Digitalised Grids for Speed."

Weitere Informationen unter:

www.TheSmarterE.de

The smarter E

“Creating a new energy world” – that’s the goal of The smarter E, the platform for the energy industry. The aim is to shine a spotlight on renewable energies, decentralization and digitalization of the energy industry as well as cross-sector solutions from the electricity, heat and transport sectors for a smart and sustainable energy supply. To this end, The smarter E unites exhibitions and conferences across four continents that take an in-depth look at these topics.

Intersolar is the world’s leading exhibition for the solar industry and specializes in the fields of photovoltaics, solar thermal technologies and solar power plants. Since being founded more than 30 years ago, Intersolar has become the most important meeting point for manufacturers, suppliers, installers, distributors, service providers, project developers, project planners and start-ups in the solar industry.

The ees is the international exhibition for batteries and energy storage systems. It is the industry platform that brings together manufacturers, distributors, project developers, system integrators, professional users and suppliers of innovative battery technologies and sustainable solutions for storing renewable energies such as green hydrogen and power-to-gas applications.

Power2Drive is the international exhibition for charging infrastructure and e-mobility. It’s the ideal meeting point for charge point operators and e-mobility providers, manufacturers and distributors, installers and planners, fleet and energy managers, suppliers and start-ups. The exhibition shines the spotlight on charging systems, electric vehicles, traction batteries and mobility services as well as innovative solutions and technologies based on renewable energies – for sustainable mobility.

EM-Power is the international exhibition for energy management and integrated energy solutions. It is focused on modernizing and digitalizing the power grid into a flexible smart grid, integrating prosumers, e-mobility and power-to-heat concepts into a holistic, renewable energy system, and promoting the efficient use of renewable energy sources. It showcases innovative technologies and services that promote 24/7 climate-neutral energy supply.

For more information on The smarter E, please visit:

www.TheSmarterE.com

Press contact:

ressourcenmangel an der Panke GmbH | Schlesische Straße 26/c4 | 10997 Berlin

Roberto Freiburger | Tel.: +49 163 8430 943

roberto.freiberger@ressourcenmangel.de

Solar Promotion GmbH | P.O. Box 100 170 | 75101 Pforzheim

Peggy Zilay | Tel.: +49 7231 58598-240

zilay@solarpromotion.com