COMMENTS ON 30 NOV COMMISSION PROPOSALS,
SET PLAN CONFERENCE, BRATISLAVA
PANEL IV, RENEWABLE ENERGY

Prof Eicke Weber
President, EUREC
Director, Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems
REACTION TO 30 NOV ENERGY PACKAGE – LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS (1/2)

- **Priority access to the grid for renewables phased out**
  - Renewable electricity generators to be remunerated from the market: value of their electricity, not LCOE, is now relevant
  - Self-consumption becomes even more interesting, esp. with decreasing battery costs
  - Demand response solutions will rapidly emerge: expect much technological innovation here
  - Balancing mkt rules changed to allow RES in: a driver for change in RES technology
  - Demo projects *do* get priority access and no balance-responsibility. Good.
  - EC should be vigilant on capacity payments: not one cent more to fossil fuel plants than needed!
REACTION TO 30 NOV ENERGY PACKAGE – LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS (2/2)

• **Advanced biofuels**
  • 2021: 0.5%; 2030: 3.6%: mandate is a small first step in re-building confidence in the market

• **Infrastructure for e-mobility**
  • Equip commercial buildings with charging points

• **Ecodesign**
  • Innovation driven by mandates

• **30% energy efficiency improvement target in EU**
  • Good, but need a deeper CO₂ target than -40%, or carbon price to low to drive technology change
REACTION TO 30 NOV ENERGY PACKAGE – “ACCELERATING CLEAN ENERGY INNOVATION”

- 2nd priority of H2020 2018-2020:
  - Leadership in renewable energy technology
- “energy-efficiency first”
  - …is a rule of thumb of little relevance to R&D policy
- Mission Innovation (worldwide effort for more public R&D)
  - The signatories should agree a firm baseline, and a target for 2025. Trump pulls US involvement? Then EU must lead.
- Piloting ARPA-E style projects
  - Don’t underestimate the culture-change needed in EC
SET PLAN

- **EUREC facilitating coordination among renewable-energy ETIPs**
  - Developing ideas jointly on what is needed from the SET Plan
  - Our sense is that a step-change needs the engagement of high-level decision makers
- **We think SET Plan Steering Group should set targets for its ‘Joint Actions’**
  - How many ERA-NET-COFUNDS? What funding, what scope? # countries involved?
- **Use ETIPs’ output in policy making**
  - Unfortunately, no ‘SET Plan scenario’ was modelled in Impact Assessment of RED II
Careful with ERA-NET-COFUNDS

- Yes, they are the main way of showing the added value of the SET Plan. But…
- …is there not a danger that, if successful, Member States will channel money to them, not FP9
- …even though the Framework Programme is inherently the better tool for transnational research?

Deal with oversubscription

- Targeted calls (Consult ETIPs for ideas for topics – no obligation on EC to take them!)

Evaluation quality

- Feedback to proposal evaluators via participants’ portal, preserving anonymity
The successful ERC focuses on basic research; EIC should focus on applied research.

EIC should not only be a one-stop shop for EU innovation support policy, but also create a new instrument to support Europe’s best application-oriented research.

Prime selection criterion for an EIC grant should be the likelihood of success in the market.

EIC projects should attract the interest of investors by de-risking their financial engagement.

This vision for the EIC will improve transfer of innovation to the market.