

EGEC input paper to SET-Plan Action n° 5

Develop new materials and technologies for energy efficiency solutions for buildings

15 February 2016

The European Geothermal Energy Council welcomes this issue paper and makes the following comments.

- The draft content of this issue paper is **very pertinent** and well formulated. In its analysis energy efficiency solutions for buildings are **limited to the building envelop and to enabling technologies** and does not cover the energy sources used.
- The draft issue paper does not touch upon the issue of decarbonisation of the building sector. To that end, **fuel switching to renewable energy sources proving heating and cooling (geothermal, solar thermal, biomass, aerothermal) is complimentary to energy efficiency solutions throughout the building envelop** and is addressed within the European Technology and Innovation Platform on Renewable Heating and Cooling (RHC-ETIP).
- In light of the above, **a link between this issue paper and the ones covering renewable heating and cooling should be made**. This will reflect the spirit of the Energy Union Strategy, which tries to bring together different streams of the energy policy.
- Although not captured in statistics, demand for **cooling** is on the rise everywhere in Europe. This **could be better reflected** in the issue paper, including through a link with renewable and efficient technologies (e.g. reversible ground source heat pumps) which can cover such a demand.
- **Concrete ideas for cooperation based on the Integrated Roadmap, Energy Equipment/systems (p.8)**. The draft refers to “Next generation of High performance heat pumps for buildings with COPs >5”. In line with Annex VII of Directive 2009/28/EC, EGEC suggests measuring the efficiency of heat pumps in terms of **seasonal COPs** or seasonal performance factor (SPF) instead of simple COP.