Energy Policy in the European Commission and the Influence of Telecommunication Companies

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New climate-mitigation impulse

2007 Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Al Gore and the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Pachauri)

2007 Report by Sir Nicholas Stern on the Economic Effects of Climate Change

More “intelligence” could increase energy efficiency

Greatest energy-conservation potential lies in:

- buildings (HVAC) ——— Lobbyists:
  - manufacturers of insulation and controls
- mobility (cars) ——— automobile industry

Which “intelligence”?

- “Intelligence” may be diffuse in “dumb” products
  - Intelligence in the home -- Digital Energy
  - Intelligence in the car/ train – World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems
    - ITS 2008 *next week* in NY, **www.itsworldcongress.org**
    - ITS 2009 in Stockholm, Sweden,

- “Intelligence” may be compact in computers
- Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) companies discover “Green IT”
  - Hardware manufacturers - concern about electronic waste
  - Providers of online services – concern about electricity consumption of data centres
    - telecommunication network operators – eager to capitalize on customers’ expanding communication needs – organized in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Geneva
    - value-added services

Telcos organize in Geneva

- **Neutralize the threat from Copenhagen:**
- post-Kyoto mandatory GHG limits?

- **Capitalize on the opportunity in Brussels**
- **www.smart2020.org**
  - The Climate Group
  - Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI, moved recently from Paris to Brussels)
  - McKinsey & Co.

Threat	Opportunity
 	
United Nations: •Geneva - International Telecommunication Union (ITU) •Copenhagen 2009 - UNFCCC.org	European Council, Brussels Spring Meeting, 2007, European Energy Policy Action Plan ,“20/20 commitment“
2003/5 - World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Action Line e-Environment Focus Group ongoing deliberations	European Commission An energy saving potential of 20% by 2020 in Europe had been identified in 2005 (EC 2006: Green paper on energy efficiency)

Energy policy involves multiple parts of the European Commission

Commissioners		*Barroso* *has no DG but a Sec.Gen., which chairs* Potocnik Piebalgs Reding Dimas		*Impact Assessment Board*
DG	Research	Energy	Environment	INFSO
Measure		Climate Thematic Strategy Directive EnEff'cy 2006	6th Env.Act. Programme	ICT ENSURE

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Analytical framework of ICT for energy efficiency

- Hilty, Lorenz M. (2008): Information Technology and Sustainability: Essays on the Relationship between Information Technology and Sustainable Development, Books on Demand GmbH (**www.amazon.de**)
  - Effects of ICT provision
  - Effects of ICT use
  - Systematic effects

- US journalist Joel Makower has general links, **http://www.greenercomputing.com/**
- Data centres
  - Bertoldi / Murray: European Code of Conduct on data centres, 2007
  - DatacenterDynamics, 2007. The next big datacentre challenge, 2007, London, **http://www.datacenterdynamics.com/**