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EU Commission Outlines Four Principles on the Way Forward for Energy Storage

EASE welcomes the Commission Staff Working Document on Energy Storage, which complements the "Clean Energy for All Europeans" Package issued in end-November 2016 and provides a valuable contribution to the policy debate. The European Commission recognises the value of energy storage as a source of system flexibility, and the subsequent need for a wide range of energy storage technologies capable of providing multiple services to the energy system.

Most importantly, EASE supports the document's articulation of **four principles supporting the market development of energy storage to overcome current market imperfections and barriers**, namely:

1. allowing the full participation of energy storage in electricity markets;
2. ensuring adequate remuneration for services provided by energy storage devices and equal treatment vis-à-vis other providers of flexibility;
3. supporting sectorial integration of energy storage, e.g. through chemical storage, in order to integrate higher amounts of decarbonised, variable renewable energy sources and to foster energy security; and
4. enabling the full deployment of decentralised storage through a non-discriminatory regulatory framework.

These principles should be enshrined in the provisions of the electricity market design legislation.

Indeed, the market design legislative proposals in the context of the "Clean Energy for All Europeans" Package do support the cost-efficient use of energy storage solutions across the energy system. In particular, EASE welcomes the clear definition for energy storage in the regulatory framework. EASE calls upon EU legislators to go further by establishing energy storage as a separate asset class, as called for by the European Parliament in autumn 2016. Energy storage should be recognised as the **4th element of the energy system** (alongside generation, distribution/transmission and consumption). This would prevent energy storage from being classified as generation or as consumption – or as both. Such a status would eliminate the unwarranted double charging (including levies and taxes) that energy storage facilities often face.

Finally, the document highlights the importance of investment in research and innovation (R&I) to achieve further cost decreases and efficiency improvements for storage technologies. EASE supports this view and is working to identify future R&I needs for energy storage and provide policy recommendations through the EASE-EERA Energy Storage Technology Development Roadmap.

We look forward to continuing our work with the European Commission and EU legislators to ensure the full participation of energy storage in electricity markets.

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About EASE:

The European Association for Storage of Energy (EASE) is the voice of the energy storage community, actively promoting the use of energy storage in Europe and worldwide. It supports the deployment of energy storage as an indispensable instrument within the framework of the European energy and climate policy to deliver services to, and improve the flexibility of, the European energy system. EASE seeks to build a European platform for sharing and disseminating energy storage-related information and supports the transition towards a sustainable, flexible and stable energy system in Europe.

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