

Conclusions (by Wim De Groot)

Some of the main drivers of the increasing electricity consumption are:

- The increasing number of families and the growing population.
- New electric appliances as (non efficient) setup boxes, home cinema's, DVD recorders, air-conditioning ...
- Old appliances are not replaced and are still plugged in (second old refrigerators, VHS-recorders, CRT-televisions for the children,).
- The increasing electric cooking.

Some of the drivers for decreasing electricity consumption in Belgium are:

- More efficient refrigerators, freezers, tumble dryers,
- The quick uptake of CFL's.
- The increasing awareness of standby losses of office equipment (not for entertainment equipment).
- Replacement of desktops by laptops (5 time less energy).

Opportunity's for the future to reduce electricity in households:

- Replacing electric (hot water) boilers with gas or with heat pump water heaters.
- Replacing the tumble dryers by more efficient ones (A-labeled).
- Replacing freezers by A++.
- Behavioral measures.
- Better building design to exclude the need for air-conditioning.
- Uptake of energy efficient technology for televisions.
- Hot water supplied dishwasher.

Questions:

Sam Vande Plas (WWF): How does the Remodece-project feed into the policy process (ecodesign directive, heaters and boilers, energy label,)?

Wim De Groot: The Remodece-project includes policy recommendations for the Commission and during the project there has been a steering committee with different stakeholders (manufacturing, research institutes, the commission, ...)

Denise Crenwelge (Ceced): Do you have any more details about the comprehension of energy labels by the consumer?

Wim De Groot: The general knowledge and awareness of energy labels for white appliances is surprisingly high. A lot of confusing has been created by adding more energy labels for the cold appliances (A+ and A++). There are even consumers who have answered that they have an A++

washing machine or dishwasher, while these machines don't exist. I hope that there is a regular revision of the criteria of the labels.

Luc Dries (FOD Leefmilieu): I'm surprised that solar energy is not mentioned as an opportunity to reduce energy cost for hot water production.

Wim De Groote: I was just mentioning a fuel switch. It might be renewable or not renewable. I'm not in favour of solar heating because it is not a very cost-effective option.

Bram Claey (BBL): Mr. Waide, you are advising the G-8. How quickly will the G-8 pick up your recommendations? What do you expect?

Paul Waide: The G-8 summit communiqué endorse these recommendations and maximize the implementation. It is hard to say when because some are members of the EU and have a complicated process to decide.