

Directive “Energy end-use efficiency and energy services”

Came into force 17th May 2006

Overview: This Directive sets targets for national energy savings, and requires Member States to prepare a series of Action Plans to show how these targets will be reached. There are also a number of specific requirements on the public sector and the energy supply companies to promote the uptake of energy efficiency measures.

Articles of most relevance to the energy efficiency of buildings (note, this Directive also covers other sectors, such as transport)

Article 4 General target

Member States are given the target of achieving a 9% saving in energy over the nine-year period beginning 2008. (Note, this covers transport sector, as well as buildings).

Annex III gives examples of specific measures, including double/triple glazing, passive heating and solar energy.

Requires the appointment of a new or existing agency in each MS to take overall responsibility for achieving the target.

Article 5 Energy end-use efficiency in the public sector

Requires the public sector to play an exemplary role in saving energy and communicating with citizens.

Requires the appointment of a new or existing agency to ensure these duties are fulfilled.

Article 6 Energy distributors and retail energy sales companies

There is an obligation on the energy companies to introduce schemes which will give incentives to their customers to install energy saving measures.

Article 14 Reports

Requires national Energy Efficiency Action Plans to be produced, giving details on how the 9% energy savings will be achieved. The first EEAP must be submitted to the Commission no later than June 2007.