



## **GMF CONSIDERATIONS ON THE GREEN PAPER:**

In our municipalities, the energy is at the beginning of the distribution process and almost all nuclear facilities are producing high quantity of electricity.

The promotion of renewable energies is a key factor to be considered: it can help to stop the climate change. But the production of renewable energy is low and its environmental impact will be high if the construction of facilities is required for electricity network connections.

At the same time, the production of electricity through combined cycle plants has to be respected because it is one of the options for the energy supply. But it has to be taken into account the emission of CO2 of that kind of industry.

Taking into account both energy diversity and local sustainable reasons (environment, social and economic development) GMF members believe that GMF areas should be considered as Energetic territories/energy producers: GMF proposes building these energy producer plants (both renewable energy and cycle combined) on their municipalities in order to take advantage of the fact that the connection to electricity network already exists.

In addition to that, we do believe that current nuclear technology is safe and climate-friendly. And it also allows the States to diversify their energy market and it helps GMF members with their social end economic growth. It means that GMF defend nuclear energy provided that safety for both civilian and environment is guaranteed.

A part from that, we do believe that the tax and fee system within the field of energy must be stable and lead towards socio-economic and environmental

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goals. Fiscal taxes have to be competition neutral and charged directly to consumers. Environmentally controlling taxes have to be levied at the production stage, have clearly stated objectives and be internationally harmonised. Capacity tax on nuclear power, as in Sweden for example, affects electricity market too much.

From our European point of view, we want to demand for a more "bottom-up" decision making before closing existing NPPs than hitherto known. The local level has to be heard in time. That is not after, but long before decisions are taken by an operator or a national government to shut down a safe, nuclear facility mainly of political reasons. We need a holistic sort of Environmental Impact Studies (EIS) foregoing such a decision. It should be as self evident as an EIS for a new facility, for instance when an operator needs a site for a waste repository. From a local democratic point of view it is remarkable to notice that there is a need for an Environmental Study, for a new bus stop or terminal in many countries but not for the closing of a big plant producing electricity in a safe and controlled way! There are lots to be done in the harmonisation of the national procedures in the field of energy decision making. This must be an aim for both the EU as a defender of a free market in Europe, read a more competition neutral system and the local democracies, the communes, as defenders of a more reliable decision making system.

In conclusion, we do recommend implementing a policy of diversification on the territories where energy is currently produced so that the existing electricity network connection can be used and environmental impacts can be minimized. In addition to that, GMF highly support the implementation of the Kyoto protocol as well as the efficiency of energy policy in favour of both a better environment and a low and stable energy supply cost in Europe. Moreover, the stimulation of new investments in that field (energy field) is needed and can be carried out by taking into account the local stakeholders' voice. For these reasons, we believe that nuclear energy is an option to be truly considered.

Presidium members of the GMF  
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