

Day, Date & Time: Wed 21/6/06

Session Title: Policy Innovation

Session Chair: Jeremy Tait

Note: This is a summary of points raised during workshop, plus points made during rest of day that Chair spotted as relevant to the theme of Policy Innovation.

During the conference the organizers encourage all participants to consider the following questions, responses to which will inform the planned Communiqué

Session Feedback

1. What policy actions, at National, Regional/European and International levels are needed to raise consumer expectations that the products they buy should be energy efficient and more sustainable?

Consensus in workshop that awareness of labels & energy efficiency is a major barrier, and that we must make consumers '**energy literate**'. Several policy ideas in pursuit of this:

- "**Energy label everything**" (ie label all energy consuming products, compulsory. Straw poll of audience indicated over one third (21 hands) supported this idea).
- Brussels is advancing this agenda far too slowly - **Member States must develop their own national schemes**, if only to provoke EC into having to develop EU schemes (as happened when Netherlands and Denmark did the same in 1980's).
- Give all consumers a **personal carbon allowance** (as per Brenda Boardman slides, would force energy literacy!)
- Provide **real-time feedback to consumers** as to what their appliances are consuming / costing. Via smart metering, or built-in feedback on appliances.

2. What policy actions, at National, Regional/European and International levels are needed to create the conditions for industry and suppliers to invest and compete to deliver the improved products we need?

- **3rd party verification of performance**, random sampling to uphold standards (California example of VSP – Verification Service Provider). Some debate as to whether manufacturers police themselves, via peer pressure or whistle-blowing on competitors – anecdotal evidence both ways.
- **Ban profligate products** (examples of Plasma TV and patio heaters given)
- **Training of installers** (California policies did not work due to staff turnover, but VSP helped; UK scheme (EST) has worked)
- Publication of **5 – 10 year timetable of clear regulatory performance standards**, to which manufacturers can respond.
- **Energy Services** for domestic and commercial premises
- Implement more stringent policies to **save water** (which also save energy, arguably more cost-effectively than directly addressing energy, LBL paper example). Similar thinking could be applied to indirectly save energy: Reduce food waste, food miles etc.
- **Feebates** – where 'tax' on worst performing products is used to directly subsidise the best (US example of this – James McMahan, LBL)
- (Consensus that Govt sponsored R&D is difficult to apply effectively)

Please encourage delegates to complete the conference Communiqué feedback form in their delegate packs and the Delegate Questionnaire

- **Cooperative procurement** – was applied successfully years ago – resurrect?
- **Full subsidy** (grant pays for product and installation – some reservations and lessons to remember from US (KEMA) on this though).

Policy innovation ideas from elsewhere during Wednesday:

- Partnerships across Govt Departments, and countries, harmonisation very effective.
- Accelerated replacement
- White Certificates (Italy pilot started 2005)