

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(75) 680 final

Brussels, 19 December 1975

Draft

REGULATION (EEC) OF THE COUNCIL

concerning information on the state of
the Community's energy supplies

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(75) 680 final

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Draft regulation of the Council relating to information on the energy supply
situation in the Community

Explanatory memorandum

Regulation (EEC) No 293/74 of the Council of 30 January 1974 on information for the establishment of comprehensive energy balance-sheets for the Community was adopted by the Council at the time in the immediate hope that it would answer the need for information engendered by the difficulties then occurring on the energy market, which were of a type likely to cause serious disturbances. The Regulation followed a decision taken by the Heads of state and government at the December 1973 meeting in Copenhagen.

As a situation similar to the one which led to the adoption of this Regulation could recur at any time, it is essential for the Community to have on hand an instrument which gives it rapid access to homogeneous and precise data on the supply situation whenever supplies are actually threatened or likely to be in danger.

However, the prevailing conditions of recent months, whilst not throwing up any specific difficulties, necessitate a continuous process of adapting supply structures to a highly fluid market situation; the request for regular information is therefore justified, although the intervals at which it is forwarded and its content differ from what is required in times of crisis.

The sort of efficiency desirable in this connection means that the required information must be rationalised and standardised at Member State and at Community level so that it gives the Commission a homogeneous, overall view of the energy supply situation in the Community. To be valid, any estimate of this situation must necessarily be unitary and encompass the whole range of sectors involved.

Regulation (EEC) No 293/74 of the Council of 30 January 1974 no longer meets these requirements. It should therefore be annulled and a new one adopted which ensures that the Commission will have all the information it needs - in difficult times as well as normal ones - as the basis for that part of its duties connected with energy policy. This is the aim of the regulation set out in what follows.

Draft Regulation (EEC) N° of the Council
of
Concerning information on the state of the Community's
energy supplies

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,
and in particular Articles 5 and 213 thereof;

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community,
and in particular Articles 187 and 192 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Whereas the pursuit and achievement of the energy policy objectives adopted
by the Council, in particular in its Resolutions of 17 December 1974 and
13 February 1975, require the harnessing of the appropriate means;

Whereas for this purpose the energy supply situation in each Member State
and in the Community as a whole must be assessed, and whereas such assessment
must of necessity be comprehensive and cover all the sectors concerned;

Whereas the Commission must therefore have at its disposal full and comparable
information on the energy supply situation if it is to accomplish the tasks
incumbent upon it in pursuit of the objectives set out above;

Whereas in order to meet energy supply requirements it has recently become
necessary to institute a permanent policy of adjusting the structure of
such supplies to changing market conditions, and whereas this situation
implies that the Commission must receive a regular flow of information;

Whereas when difficulties arise which could cause serious disturbances by
reducing or jeopardizing energy supplies the Commission must also be able
to obtain more immediate and more detailed information on the most important
aspects of that situation;

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Whereas, in response to the difficulties which arose on the energy market at that time, on 30 January 1974 the Council adopted Regulation (EEC) No 293/74 eliciting certain information from the Member States for the purpose of drawing up comprehensive energy balance sheets for the Community;

Whereas the Regulation referred to above no longer meets requirements, for it does not enable the Commission to obtain the information which is indispensable to it both under normal circumstances and in periods of difficulty;

Whereas it is in the general interest to standardize and rationalize the communication of all the information required at Community level;

Whereas it is necessary to ensure that the obligations provided for in this Regulation are complied with and that the confidential nature of the data collected is respected,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

The Member States shall communicate to the Commission, on 20 January and 20 July of each year the information concerning their energy supply situation as set out in Annex I to this Regulation, giving the figures for the previous half-year and the forecasts for the current half-year.

Article 2

If, after consulting the Energy Committee, the Commission decides that difficulties which are reducing, or could reduce, the energy supplies of one or more Member States are liable to cause serious disturbances, the Member States shall fulfil the following obligations :

- a) the Member States shall communicate to the Commission at quarterly intervals the information set out in Annex I to this Regulation,
- b) the Member States shall communicate to the Commission at quarterly intervals the information on the energy consumed by each of their major sectors of consumption, as set out in Annex II to this Regulation.

The information referred to in paragraphs a) and b) above shall be communicated to the Commission on 20 January, 20 April, 20 July and 20 October of each year, and shall comprise the figures for the previous quarter and forecasts for the current quarter.

The occurrence of a situation requiring the fulfilment of the obligations referred to in this Article shall be the subject of a communication from the Commission in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

Article 3

The Member States may add comments to their communications. The Commission shall transmit to the Member States an annotated summary of the information received pursuant to Articles 1 and 2 and shall, where appropriate, hold the necessary consultations.

Article 4

At least fifteen days before the dates laid down in Article 1, all persons and undertakings concerned shall communicate to their national authorities, at the latter's request, the information which those authorities require in order to fulfil the obligations set out in Articles 1 and 2.

Article 5

1. Information forwarded pursuant to this Regulation shall be treated as confidential.
2. Persons who are participating or have participated in the collection and preparation of the information referred to in this Regulation shall be bound not to divulge the specific data or any other specific information which may have come to their knowledge in or during the exercise of their duties.
3. The confidential nature of the information referred to in paragraph 1 above shall not prevent the publication of general information or of summaries in a form such that information concerning persons and undertakings cannot be individually identified.

Article 6

The Member States shall adopt appropriate provisions to ensure observance of the obligations arising under Articles 4 and 5.

Article 7

Regulation (EEC) No 293/74 of the Council of 30 January 1974 on information for the establishment of comprehensive energy balance sheets for the Community is hereby repeated.

Article 8

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly in all Member States.

Done at

For the Council

The President

Energy supply - Council Regulation nr of

Questionnaire "normal situation"

Country:

Semester:

in 10³ toe

	Hard coal & Patent fuel	Coke	Lignite & Peat briquet.	Crude oil	Petroleum products	Natural gas	Derived gases	Nuclear energy	Hydro. & geoth. energy	Electr. energy	Total
1. Production of primary sources											
2. Production of derived products											
3. Supplies from the Community											
4. Imports from third-party countries											
6. Stocks: a) Level (end period) b) Changes											
8. Deliveries to the Community											
9. Exports to third-party countries											
10. Gross consumption 1+2+3+4-6-8-9											
11. Bunkers											
Equivalence in primary energy 10 - 2 - 11											
12. Gross inland consumption of primary sources and equivalents											

Additional questionnaire
"crisis period"

Energy consumption - Council Regulation nr of

Country:

Trimester:

in 10^3 toe

	Hard coal & Patent fuel	Coke	Lignite & Peat briquet.	Crude oil	Petroleum products	Natural gas	Derived gases	Electr. energy	Total
171. Industry									
172. Transportation									
173. Households, etc... (+ 179. others)									
16. Non-energy uses									
<u>Final consumption</u> 171 + 172 + 173 + 16									
131. Electrical power stations									
133. Gas works & + 135. Blast furnaces									
134. Coke ovens									
136. Refineries									
<u>Transformations</u> 131 + (133+135)+134+136									
14. Consumption of the energy sector									
15. Network losses									

in 10^3 toe	LPG & refinery gas	Motor spirit	Aviation fuels	Gas/ Diesel oil	Residual fuel oil	Other petroleum products	Total
Refiner net production							
Inland deliveries							

Remarks on the rules for the application
of Regulation No

When replying to the questionnaires given in Annex I and Annex II to this Regulation, the following conventions should be observed.

I. General convention:

The nomenclature of energy products, the general framework, the definition of and field covered by each line of the balance-sheet are based on the conventions adopted by the Statistical Office of the European Communities and listed in all its "Energy Statistics" publications (Quarterly Bulletins and Yearbooks).

II. Specific conventions for the application of this Regulation:

A. All questionnaires:

1. Energy products:

Lignite and briquettes + peat: peat exclusively for Ireland.

Petroleum products: all petroleum products, including LPG and refinery gas.

Derived gases: works gas + coke-oven gas + blast furnace gas.

Hydro-electric and geothermic energy: excluding production based on pumping.

Electrical energy: excluding hydro-electric, geothermic and nuclear energy in sections dealing with generation and gross consumption.

2. Common unit:

Balance-sheets are expressed in 1 000 tonnes oil equivalent (10^3 toe); the oil equivalent is defined as having a net calorific value (NCU) of 10 000 calories per gram. One tonne of oil equivalent (1 toe) corresponds to 10 Gcal (10^7 kcal).

3. Conversion factors in 10³ toe:

	basic unit	conversion factor
Solid fuels (tce: 7 000 kcal)	10 ³ tce	x 0.7
Natural gas	Tcal (GCV)	x 0.092
Works gas and coke-oven gas	Tcal (GCV)	x 0.092
Blast furnace gas	Tcal (GCV)	x 0.1
Crude oil and petroleum products	10 ³ t	x 1
Other fuels	Tcal (NCV)	x 0.1
Electricity (for 1975)	GWh (10 ⁶ kWh)	
	Belgium	x 0.224
	Denmark	x 0.210
	Germany	x 0.230
	France	x 0.220
	Ireland	x 0.266
	Italy	x 0.218
	Luxembourg	x 0.326
	Netherlands	x 0.224
	United Kingdom	x 0.252

B. Questionnaire on "normal period" (Annex I)

1. Production of primary sources:

Column headed "electrical energy": indicate "other fuels" used for the generation of electricity in conventional thermal power stations (wood, household refuse etc.).

2. Production of derived products:

Column headed "hard coal, ...": omit production of patent fuel*.

Column headed "lignite, ...": omit production of brown coal briquettes*.

Column headed "electrical energy": indicate result of conventional thermal production + electricity produced by pumping - "other primary fuels" (already indicated under B.1 above): omit production of heat.

6.b Stocks, variations:

Increase of stocks: positive sign (+) means increase of stocks during the period in question.

Decrease of stocks: negative sign (-) means decrease of stocks during the period in question.

* Similarly, in the questionnaire on "period of crisis", line 132: "processing in patent fuel and briquetting plants" will be omitted.

C. Questionnaire on "period of crisis" (Annex II)

131. Electrical power stations:

Column headed "electrical energy": to be consistent with item B.1 above, do not indicate "other products", but show only electrical energy absorbed by pumping.

