The Role of Coal Within a Future Energy Mix

European Coal Days Roundtable Debate

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Objectives of EU Energy Policy

- Goal: To ensure that European businesses and consumers obtain **safe, secure and sustainable** energy at **competitive prices**.

- “Magic Triangle” of energy policy:
Importance of Coal in EU Energy Mix

Source: Eurostat
Energy Strategy 2011-2020

- Focus on concrete policy actions for the next 18 months
- Realise our 2020 goals and prepare decarbonisation of our energy supply
- Identification of 5 priority areas
  - Improving energy efficiency
  - Integration of energy markets and grids
  - Protecting consumers
  - Europe’s leadership in energy technologies
  - External dimension of EU energy policy
CCS Demonstration Projects

Source: Geocapacity, adapted by DG ENER
Commission Energy Policy Priorities

- Focus on implementing agreed policies (internal energy market, security of gas supply, energy efficiency, Renewables Directive)
- EU Energy Strategy 2011 – 2020 (now)
- European Energy Infrastructure Package (17.10.2010)
- Communication on External Energy Relations (2011)
- **Energy Roadmap 2050 (2011)**
Best Use of Indigenous Fossil Fuels

- Berlin Fossil Fuels Forum plenary on 18./19. October 2010
  - Good practice sharing
    - Backing of initiatives by industry
    - Dissemination of Member State good practices
    - Areas:
      - Environmental performance
      - Public awareness and acceptance
      - Continued availability of skilled workforce
  - Research and innovation: consultation for FP8 early 2011
  - Unconventional resources and use of fossil fuels
  - Transparency of EU coal inventory
Conclusion

- Energy mix at national level is for Member States to decide.

- With CCS there is a potential for coal to maintain an important role in the European energy mix of the future.

- The challenge of decarbonisation will require a concerted effort by the European Union, the Member States and the industry.
Thank You for Your Attention