

Euro Commission's Third Energy Package Update

The European Commission's third package to complete the single EU power market would be "in vain" if there were no cross-border flows, EU energy commissioner Andris Piebalgs says. "It is not enough that we have the same set of rules in each EU country," says Piebalgs. "If there is no cross-border energy flow, if companies can't move to another country with their knowledge and their money to deliver the best possible services to customers of that country, [then] all is in vain, and it is actually contrary to the EU treaty," he adds. The EC proposed the package in September 2007 to overcome the remaining barriers to the 27 national power markets in the EU working together as one market. "Markets and competition alone do not always provide the result we want," says Piebalgs. EC policy makers had to balance market forces which strongly drove change, and regulation which was politically very sensitive, according to Piebalgs. The third package proposals are not perfect, he says, but it is much better to have clear upfront rules so that there will be no perception that the market could be manipulated or influenced in any way.

[Source essa news]