



# **Guarantees of Origin – European Commission Perspective**

***Philip Good  
DG Energy - European Commission***

# Consumers are central to the Energy Union

*"with citizens at its core,  
where citizens take  
ownership of the energy  
transition, benefit from new  
technologies to reduce their  
bills, [and] participate  
actively in the market"*





# Consumer empowerment is needed

*"Providing consumers with frequent access, including in near real-time, to **partially standardised, meaningful, accurate** and understandable information on consumption and related costs as well as the **types of energy sources**"*



A New Deal for Energy Consumers Communication 2015



# Requirements for disclosure of the sources of electricity will be reviewed

EU instrument for renewable energy mix disclosure to consumers - the **guarantee of origin (GO)** is part of the **Renewables Directive**

- Use of GOs are not compulsory for energy mix disclosure requirements

Electricity suppliers required to disclose energy mix in energy bills under the **Electricity Directive** (2009/72/EC)

- This legislation is **under review** at the same time as the renewables legislation



## **Mid-term assessment of the current Renewable Energy Directive**

*"It is worth investigating the possible extension of the use of GOs to all types of power generation i.e. including electricity from fossil and nuclear generation"*

*"This would help support the tracking and auditing on non-renewable supplies and underpin the integrity of the supply mix disclosure statements that inform consumer choices concerning these generation types"*

# Public consultation questions on disclosure

*Should the current system for providing consumers with information on their sources of electricity be **developed and improved**?*

*Should the Guarantees of Origin (GO) system be made the **mandatory** form of information disclosure to consumers?*

*Should other information, such as **CO<sub>2</sub> emissions** be included?*

*Should it be **extended** to the whole energy system and include non-renewable sources?*

*Has the current GO system **been successful** in providing consumers with information on the sources of electricity consumed?*

# Responses to public consultation

*GO system is important to **drive market demand for renewable energy** by enabling consumer choice*

*GO system is key to **disclosure** of energy sources to consumers and, with few exceptions, it should be strengthened*

*Wide support for the **extension of GOs** to all types of generation, including information on carbon intensity, and its full operation across-borders.*

*Opposing views regarding whether full disclosure should be **mandatory or voluntary**, and several stakeholders concerned about **excessive administrative burden**.*

# The way forward

*The Energy Union is supportive of informed consumers and their engagement in the energy transition*

*Review of disclosure requirements and the GO system for the post 2020 legal framework*

*Proposals for revised legislation in 2016 for:*

- *Electricity market directive*
- *Renewables directive*

*The revision provides a good opportunity to take stock of the current system and identify improvements*



# **Thank you for your attention!**

**[philip.good@ec.europa.eu](mailto:philip.good@ec.europa.eu)**