

# CZECH REPUBLIC



*Little ambition on climate and energy targets and next to no public consultation*

Public participation			Level of ambition			
Early publication	Independent review	Public consultation	Energy efficiency	Renewable energy sources	Fossil fuels phase-out	Investment needs
A	C	C	C	B	D	D
Published end 2018 with ten days during to comment. Draft publication not officially announced.	Expert group from EE and RES associations but no real effect. No SEA foreseen	Comments discussed in March, NGOs not invited	Lowest efficiency gain possible, could be twice as high	Target clearly not ambitious enough	No plan for the phase-out of fossil fuels nor any hint in such a direction	Investment needs for the whole NECP left for the final version

In Czechia, the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) published the draft on 21 December 2018, allows ten days during the Christmas holidays to comment on over the 300 pages of text.

The ministry did not officially announce the publication of the draft and instead published it on an obscure section of the ministry's website in breach of the the national law on EIA and the Aarhus Convention.

Regarding compliance with existing environmental and planning assessments, the government has said that the plan would pass through an SEA once the final draft of the NECP is published. Public hearings to collect stakeholders' views on the NECPs would be part of the SEA procedure, and the ministry invited some organisations to a meeting in March to discuss comments submitted on the draft proposal, but NGOs were not invited to this meeting.

The internal review process was supported by an expert group from RES and EE associations but not NGOs. Given the final shape of the document, it does not appear that the expert group's models were much reflected.

## Level of ambition

The proposed national greenhouse gases reduction target of 30% by 2030 is too low and does not comply with the requirements of the Paris climate agreement. If the EU is to reduce

its GHG emission by 55% by 2030, Czechia would need to reduce its emissions in sectors not covered by the EU ETS by at least 31%. NGOs have asked to increase the target for non-EU ETS sectors to 31%, compared to the currently proposed 14%.

The low ambition in emissions reduction is reflected also in the RES goal of the proposed NECP. The suggested national RES target for 2030 (20.8%) will not help Czechia reach its potential for renewable energy production by 2030, and the MOIT expects another five years of stagnation in RES development. The low target also does not conform to the Commission's calculation methodology and does not take into account the conclusions of the Paris agreement or the EU's Long-Term Strategy. NGOs therefore require an adequate national target of at least 24% and the development of RES immediately after the amendment of the law on the support for renewable sources.

Moreover, in terms of consumption, the NECP is premised on the lowest energy efficiency gains possible. The target for energy efficiency in 2030 of 30% is too low to meet the current EU wide target of 32.5%. Moreover, the most recent and realistic energy efficiency scenario provided to the MOIT by the energy efficiency association shows that twice as much energy savings can be achieved between 2020 and 2030 compared to the MOIT estimates.

The NECP includes no plan for the phase-out

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of fossil fuels nor any hint in such a direction. Even though energy efficiency and renewable investment needs are assessed, the investment needs for the whole NECP are left for the final version, which makes it harder for stakeholders to properly assess this part.

#### **Inconsistencies with existing plans**

The document omits measures anchored in the State Energy Strategy of the Czech Republic and the Climate Protection Policy of the Czech

Republic, namely the introduction of a carbon tax, which should have been implemented by the end of 2018. This is a key measure to ensure household emissions reductions. Also, essential measures for the heating industry are completely missing in the document, namely an increase in the energy tax on coal as required by the State Energy Policy of the Czech Republic, which should favor the efficient cogeneration of power from coal. The introduction of the tax is also one of the main goals of the heating strategy.

