

EN

E-002485/2025

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Ribera
on behalf of the European Commission
(18.8.2025)

1. In the period 2022 to 2024, the main State aid Guidelines allowing for support to energy-intensive industry were (i) Section 2.4 of the Temporary Crisis Framework (TCF) and Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework (TCTF),¹ (ii) Section 4.11 Climate Environmental Protection and Energy Guidelines (CEEAG)², (iii) Emission Trading System State aid Guidelines (ETS)³.

In that period, the Commission approved 21 schemes under Section 2.4 TCF, 10 schemes under Section 2.4 TCTF, four schemes under Section 4.11 CEEAG and 17 schemes under the ETS Guidelines⁴.

2. The notion of aid is an objective notion explained in the Notice on the notion of State aid⁵. Member States are only required to notify measures if these constitute State aid or if these do not meet the requirements under the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER)⁶ or the *de minimis* Regulation⁷.

3. Wholesale energy prices differ across Member States and even within in different bidding zones due to market fundamentals, including, but not limited to, interconnection and grid capacity and regional balance of energy supply and demand⁸. Divergence of wholesale energy prices across Europe does not *per se* constitute a distortion of competition in the Single Market.

Furthermore, the Commission has approved Greek schemes to support energy intensive industries for the ETS allowance prices embedded in electricity prices (SA.103180), for compensation under Section 2.4 TCTF (SA.107915), and reduction on levies raised for renewable sources and high-efficiency cogeneration (SA.52413, adopted on 18 December 2018).

Finally, the new Clean Industrial State aid Framework (CISAF)⁹, in its Section 4.5, provides for additional avenues to support certain categories of energy intensive industries.

¹ OJ C 101 17.3.2023, p. 3. Initially already included in the Temporary Crisis Framework for State Aid measures to support the economy following the aggression against Ukraine by Russia, OJ C 131I, 24.3.2022, p. 1.

² Guidelines on State aid for climate, environmental protection and energy 2022, OJ C 80, 18.2.2022.

³ Guidelines on certain State aid measures in the context of the system for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading post-2021, OJ C 317, 25.9.2020.

⁴ These statistics count new or reintroduced schemes (schemes that expired and were renotified). Amendments and prolongations were not counted. The most recent State aid scoreboard contains further analysis of aid measures, available at: https://competition-policy.ec.europa.eu/state-aid/scoreboard_en.

⁵ Commission Notice on the notion of State aid as referred to in Article 107(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, OJ C 262, 19.7.2016.

⁶ Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty Text with EEA relevance, OJ L 187, 26.6.2014.

⁷ Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/2831 of 13 December 2023 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid, OJ L, 2023/2831, 15.12.2023.

⁸ The Affordable Energy Action Plan (COM/2025/79) of 26 February 2025 presents several actions to foster the integration of the EU energy markets.

⁹ Framework for State Aid measures to support the Clean Industrial Deal (Clean Industrial Deal State Aid Framework), OJ C, C/2025/3602, 4.7.2025.