

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004126/25
to the Commission**

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(20 October 2025)

Subject: Timeline for the decoupling of energy prices from the gas price

Energy-intensive industries are essential for the EU's strategic autonomy and competitiveness, in addition to playing a leading role in job creation. On 4 April 2015, Parliament adopted a text calling on the Commission to identify ways to decouple electricity from gas prices, so as to reduce the EU's dependence on external energy sources and support companies in the EU. This measure would also contribute to a significant reduction in energy costs, with positive economic effects for both businesses and households.

In this context, can the Commission state:

1. Whether it intends to take into account the position taken by both Parliament and the Council, in order to implement decoupling?
2. If so, when will such decoupling take place and how long will it take to implement all the necessary instruments to achieve it?

Submitted: 20.10.2025

Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(8 January 2026)

The Commission recognises the need to mitigate the impact of gas prices on electricity bills. The Parliament and Council agreed in 2024 on the European electricity market design reform to address this issue.

The reform strengthens in particular the role of power purchase agreements (PPAs) and two-way contracts for difference (CfDs) make electricity prices less dependent on volatile fossil fuel prices.

The Commission supports Member States in their implementation. In its Action Plan for Affordable Energy ⁽¹⁾ published in 2025, the Commission has set out measures to support the development of long-term pricing instruments.

The Commission has launched, with the European Investment Bank, a pilot program for an indicative amount of EUR 500 million to provide guarantees for counter-party risk in PPAs undertaken by companies for the long-term purchase of electricity.

The Commission will also assess barriers to PPAs, issue guidance on their removal and assess the potential role of market platforms. In December 2025, the Commission adopted a guidance to Member States on the design of effective contracts for difference, including their combination with PPAs.

As energy bills are also heavily influenced by other cost components, such as levies, network charges and energy taxation, these aspects need to be addressed.

The Commission issued guidance in June 2025 on efficient network charges and will issue in the coming months guidance on energy taxation. These efforts will help to make the energy system function better and to bring down the cost for European consumers.

⁽¹⁾ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/publications/action-plan-affordable-energy-unlocking-true-value-our-energy-union-secure-affordable-efficient-and_en.