

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-001059/26
to the Commission
Isabella Lövin (Verts/ALE)
(13 March 2026)**

Subject: Implementing the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive

The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) is now being transposed into national legislation. The directive says that Member States should use primary energy factors or weighting factors to make different heating solutions comparable from an energy efficiency perspective. The Commission's recommendation clarifies that the terms 'primary energy factors' and 'weighting factors' should be regarded as synonymous.

In Sweden, the responsible authority has proposed using weighting factors that deviate from the methodology specified by the Commission for calculating primary energy factors. This risks the most energy-efficient solutions becoming disadvantaged.

Given the above, could the Commission answer the following:

1. What is the difference between a primary energy factor and a weighting factor?
2. Can a weighting factor be calculated in another way than that for a primary energy factor?
3. How will the Commission ensure that the EPBD's implementation promotes the most efficient use of energy resources and supports the EU's decarbonisation objectives, taking into account the limited availability of sustainable biomass and the fossil emissions that originate from waste incineration, including those from plastic waste?

Submitted: 13.3.2026

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(7 May 2026)**

Commission Notice C/2025/6438 ⁽¹⁾ providing guidance on new or substantially modified provisions of recast Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EU) 2024/1275 (EPBD Directive) ⁽²⁾ sets out the Commission's understanding of these provisions and clarifies that, in the context of the calculation of energy performance pursuant to Annex I, primary energy factors 'have an equivalent meaning' as the weighting factors from the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN)/International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) overarching standards for the calculation of the energy performance of buildings.

The weighting factors from the standards have a wider meaning, being either total, renewable and non-renewable primary energy factors, greenhouse gas emissions emission factors, or others.

The provisions of EPBD Directive and the ISO 52000-1 standard do indeed allow for some flexibility in using weighting factors and primary energy factors.

The main goal of EPBD Directive as laid down in Article 1(1) is 'the improvement of the energy performance of buildings and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from buildings within the Union, with a view to achieving a zero-emission building stock by 2050 [...]'.

As such, the EPBD Directive does not prescribe the use of sustainable biomass or waste incineration technology but provides a robust legal framework for an efficient use of energy resources in buildings. It remains the prerogative of Member States to decide on their national energy mix and the most efficient use of energy resources in their national context.

The Commission will ensure the proper transposition of the EPBD Directive through the infringement dialogue that will start after the transposition deadline on 29 May 2026.

⁽¹⁾ OJ C, C/2025/6438, 18.12.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2025/6438/oj>.

⁽²⁾ Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EU) 2024/1275, OJ L, 2024/1275, 8.5.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1275/oj>.