



Public Procurement boosts Energy Efficiency

1. LIGHTING STREET EQUIPMENT AND OTHER ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

1.1. BACKGROUND

1.1.1. GLOBAL AND EUROPEAN CONTEXT

According to the European Commission by 2010 approximately 180 million tones of CO₂, the equivalent annual output of around 50 power stations, could be prevented with energy efficient products and appliances alone in Europe. This is around half of the EU's commitment under Kyoto.

Green procurement is a key element to curb consumption of energy in Europe. Europe's local authorities spend 14-16% of EU GDP on public procurement each year; this money can be used wisely to help save energy consumption through purchasing energy efficient technologies, such as lamps. Although in general these lamps are initially more expensive, based on their "total cost of ownership", savings can be made through operational costs, in electricity, maintenance and disposal. The *Green Paper on Energy Efficiency* (Doing more with less) and the forthcoming *Commission Action Plan on Energy Efficiency* will urge the public sector to play an 'exemplary role' which will encourage energy-efficient public procurement, energy audits and energy performance contracting¹.

Global annual energy consumption in lighting is estimated at more than 2,100 TWh, of which urban/road lighting accounts for 8% of it (approximately 12-15% of global electricity production). Improved efficiency has a direct bearing on emissions and helping to meet tightening Kyoto targets. Some studies suggest we could achieve savings in Europe of over 20 TWh, equivalent to 10 million tonnes of CO₂, about 4%

¹ ELC Fed. Energy Profiles, 2005

of the total EU commitment to the Kyoto agreement.²

So governments and citizens are motivated by lower energy and maintenance costs and may also achieve improved road safety, urban security and enhanced visual appeal (for tourism, retail, leisure).



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² Mills E, 2002 data, Right Light conference 2005