

EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL
CITIZENS ORGANISATION
FOR STANDARDISATION



ORGANISATION EUROPÉENNE
ENVIRONNEMENTALE CITOYENNE
POUR LA NORMALISATION

Note on the CENSE project

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European citizens wish a more precise information regarding the energy performance of their dwelling and other buildings. They are ready to adapt their behaviour in order to save energy but a separate information on the quality of the building itself (envelope and equipment) is needed. A global energy consumption indicator mixing the building related performance (heating, cooling, lighting, ventilation...) and the occupants related choices (domestic appliances) is not informative enough.

A users manual of a dwelling would help to save energy by appropriate management and maintenance.

The energy performance should be evaluated based upon a realistic occupancy scenario, e.g. assuming a 20°C thermostat set point and not a temperature reduction of 16°C as it is in some national regulations.

European citizens wish to progress towards a guaranteed performance, i.e. the evaluated performance is checked against energy bills according to an appropriate protocol (e.g. checking that the thermostat set point remains in a reasonable limit). Checking that the regulation is really applied is essential.

Energy labels should include several criteria, e.g. CO₂ emissions but also radioactive waste, otherwise there is a high risk to replace one environmental problem by another.

Energy saving is particularly important for low income citizens, who suffer from energy poverty.