REDUCING PERIPHERAL REGIONAL ENERGY DEMAND: THE MEASUREMENT CHALLENGE

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ABSTRACT

Reducing energy demand has become a major policies initiative in many countries. There has been much discussion of the macro issues surrounding this. The Oslo ‘city group’ has concentrated the minds of official statisticians to the information needs of policy makers at the national level. However, there is considerable anecdotal evidence that energy demand reduction policies at the micro level are the most effective. The validity of this observation is difficult to assess as there appears to be a dearth of quantifiable information available for either research or policy making at this level. This paper, using the experience gained from two major European projects aimed at addressing the issue of energy demand reduction in peripheral regions through renewal energy solutions, looks at the measurement challenges facing statisticians at the micro level.

Keywords: Energy demand, peripheral regions, measurement of energy demand