

Joint industry statement on the European Commission's work on Minimum Performance Standards (MPSs)

Brussels, Tuesday 12 May 2026

The undersigned associations, representing the digital infrastructure and technology sectors, support the European Union's objective of increasing the resource efficiency of the data centre sector and the commitments of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED). A robust, evidence-based and well-sequenced process is essential to ensuring that any future minimum performance standards (MPS) support sustainability objectives and innovation while maintaining a predictable and investment-friendly environment.

This is why the undersigned associations would like to express their **shared concerns regarding the process, the methodology, and the accelerated timeline of the ongoing technical assistance study**, performed by consultancies Viegand Maagøe and Borderstep Institute on behalf of the European Commission, to support the development of MPS. As currently structured, the study risks progressing ahead of the availability of sufficiently robust data, as well as comprehensive stakeholder consultation.

The integrity of the Union rating scheme depends on a sequenced approach where standards follow verified evidence. The ongoing study is currently attempting to define performance thresholds even as the rating scheme itself remains in a draft phase. Initiating MPS development before the completion of at least one full reporting cycle under the EED risks establishing thresholds that are not grounded in a comprehensive empirical understanding of performance across the ecosystem.

Regulatory frameworks that influence billions of euros in infrastructure investment must be built on a robust, granular and representative evidence base. The current study approach, including the limited sample of six to eight stakeholder interviews, fails to capture the diversity and complexity of the European data centre market, and the expected schedule is disproportionately compressed, thus precluding extensive stakeholder feedback and technical validation.

In light of the above, the undersigned associations call for:

- A pause on the work on minimum performance standards until sufficient verified operational data from the EED reporting database has been collected and assessed over multiple reporting cycles.

- A broader and more representative consultation process, reflecting the diversity of data centre models, operating environments, and technical configurations.
- An extension of the study timeline to allow for meaningful stakeholder engagement, technical validation and alignment with the development of the EU data centre rating scheme.

Signatories (in alphabetical order):

Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA Europe)

Eco – Association of the Internet Industry

European Data Center Association (EUDCA)

ITI – Information Technology Industry Council



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