# **The SDIA welcomes the deal of the European Council and Parliament on the Energy Efficiency Directive**

On 10 March 2023, the European Parliament and Council agreed a provisional agreement finalizing the specific text of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED).

This final version of the Directive is a significant win for the SDIA, as it includes many aspects that the SDIA has advocated for ̶ that are urgently needed to progress the [SDIA Roadmap](https://sdialliance.org/roadmap) towards a sustainable digital infrastructure by 2030.

With regards to **transparency** and **heat recovery**, this new Directive is a major milestone, and we look forward to supporting the implementation of the EED into law within each member state. We also appreciate the swift timeline of the directive that has been agreed upon, with the first reporting deadline and application due merely one year from now (15 May 2024).

The highlights:

* Owners and operators of data centers above 500 kW need to make their environmental performance public at least once a year. This includes energy consumption, power utilization, temperature, heat utilization, and use of renewable energy based on the EN50600-4.
* Data centers with rated energy input exceeding 1 MW have to recover their waste heat, or prove that it’s not technically or economically feasible to do so.
* The European Commission will establish a European database on data centers that will include all the information reported from each data center (albeit aggregated).
* The Commission will use the data collected from the sector to issue another revision of the EED by 15 May 2025, with further improvements and measures for the data center industry. This will likely include suggestions on setting minimum performance standards, as well as a roadmap towards net-zero emission data centers.
* The metrics and indicators that data centers will have to share are still subject to change and are currently with the Commission (delegated act). The SDIA is part of the process of shaping these metrics, [see our comments here.](https://sdialliance.org/blog/comments-on-the-task-a-document-in-technical-support-of-the-eed) However, even the current version is a big step forward in terms of transparency. Below we have extracted the relevant passages from the Directive. The full version can be found here (link to PDF).

By 15 May 2024 and annually thereafter, Member States will require **owners and operators of data centres with power demand of at least 500kW, to make specific information (set out in Annex VI) publicly available**, except information subject to national and EU laws protecting trade and business secrets and confidentiality.

The Commission will by 15 May 2025 prepare an assessment and a report, which could be accompanied by a proposal on further measures to improve energy efficiency in data centres. In accordance with Article 24, **Member States shall ensure that data centres with a total rated energy input exceeding 1 MW utilise the waste heat or other waste heat recovery applications unless they can show that it is not technically or economically feasible.**

The Commission shall establish a **European database on data centres** that includes information communicated by the obligated data centres in accordance with paragraph 1. The EU database shall be publicly available on aggregated level.

By 15 May 2025, the Commission shall assess the available data on the energy efficiency of data centres submitted to it by the Member States pursuant to paragraph 2 and shall submit a report to the European Parliament and the Council.

The report shall be accompanied, if appropriate, by a proposal on further measures to improve energy efficiency, including on establishing minimum performance standards and an assessment on the feasibility of transition towards a net-zero emission data centres sector, in close consultation with the relevant stakeholders. Such a proposal may establish a timeframe within which existing data centres are to be required to meet minimum performance criteria.

### **Annex VIa**

the name of the data centre, the name of the owner and operators of the data centre, the date of entry into operation and the municipality where the data centre is based; the floor area of the data centre; the installed power; the annual incoming and outgoing data traffic; and the amount of data stored and processed within the data centre; the performance, during the last full calendar year, of the data centre in accordance with key performance indicators about, inter alia, energy consumption, power utilisation, temperature set points, waste heat utilisation, water usage and use of renewable energy, using as a basis, where applicable, the CEN/CENELEC EN 50600-4 "Information technology - Data centre facilities and infrastructures", until the entry into force of the delegated act pursuant to Article 31 of this Directive.