

OLIVIER APPERT

Chairman of the Conseil Français de l'Énergie

It is really important to discuss Trump's energy policy and perhaps I will make a non-politically correct statement by saying that Trump's energy policy will have no direct impact on the CO2 emissions of the US. [...] I think what is very important to discuss here is the Chinese decisions and policies and where China is moving to. I would also like us to discuss the elephant in the room, which is coal. [...] In Europe, besides some companies such as Total, we have lost the momentum of CCS and the leaders are now in the US and China. In Europe, we will again be me-toos. [...] In Europe, except for the UK, it will be very, very difficult to cope with the challenge of setting up a carbon price, mostly if there is no agreement in Germany. [...] Electricity is very difficult to store. It is possible to store it for a few hours, but unfortunately what we need in order to develop 100% renewables is interseasonal storage. For the time being, there is no economic solution except hydro storage. Other technologies are considered but for the time being there is no business case for that. However, it is very attractive for politicians. [...] The transport sector represents 60% of oil consumption and the bulk of the increase in demand comes from the transport sector. Petroleum products represent 92% of the energy consumption of the transport sector. What about the other 8%? It is 4% natural gas, 3% biofuel and 1% electricity. [...] If we are not able to cope with the two degree scenario, as you said, adaptation will become more and more important. [...] You have to take into account the inertia of the energy system. [...] Energy efficiency is paramount and we should spend more time discussing energy efficiency.