

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Awareness, innovation and uniform development in the ARERA Strategic Framework**

*supporting consumer awareness, enabling companies to invest in technological innovation for the environment and monitoring the homogeneity in public services between the different areas of the country. These are the main objectives of the document approved for the 2019-2021 period*

Milan, 19 June 2019 - ARERA's strategic framework for 2019 -2021 has been approved, the document with which the Authority for the energy and environment sectors indicates the priorities and objectives of its action in the next three years. A transparent tool toward stakeholders, which provides - among other things - an annual reporting of the activities actually carried out and of the reasons for any deviations.

For an inclusive and involved decision-making process, **the Strategic Framework has been subject to consultation** (open to comparison and discussion for one month) and has collected **the contribution of 67 subjects**, almost all of which also took part in **public hearings** held at the beginning of May in Rome.

**Some of the guiding principles of the document:** a role of greater **centrality of the consumer**, to whom it will provide tools and actions to ensure more informed choices; enhancement of **innovation** of technology and processes in the environmental and energy context; a particular attention to **uniform development in the different areas of the country**, to which principles of asymmetric regulation will be applied in order to make a **the level of public services more homogeneous** across the territory.

Several observations, received from companies and associations, were therefore transposed into the final version of the Strategic Framework approved. These include: the extension of projects for the enhancement of metering (assessing economic and environmental impacts) to the water sector as well, the introduction, also in this sector, of the procedures for managing arrears and the principle of water conservation; the reduction of the time frames for sanctioning procedures and actions to reduce litigation between operators and network operators; the revision of regulation relating to simple production systems and closed distribution systems, also taking into account indications on self-consumption and energy community; the gradual introduction of clear and transparent tariff rules for waste management, with an asymmetrical approach aimed at securing the economic- financial balance of operations.

"Our technologically neutral and cross-sector approach was appreciated by stakeholders who, with their contribution, have helped improve the Authority's plan of action - commented **the President of ARERA, Stefano Besseghini** - Now it is possible to move from intentions to facts and we wanted to clarify the temporal dimension of the interventions in order to specify the application of the general objectives in the document".

Topics, those of the Strategic Framework, that will probably be at the centre of the Authority's next **Annual Report to Parliament** - the first of the present Board - which will take place on **4 July 2019** before the **Chamber of Deputies**.

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### ***How the Strategic Framework is structured***

*The Strategic Framework is articulated - by cross-cutting and sectoral areas - according to **strategic objectives** and **lines of action**. The Objectives encompass the overall strategy, based on the current and medium-term scenario: the centrality of the consumer, system innovation, simplification, transparency and enforcement of the regulatory framework. **The lines of action** succinctly describe the main measures and actions that the Authority intends to carry out, within the time frames defined, to achieve each strategic objective.*

*The document is available on the website [www.arera.it](http://www.arera.it).*