

PRESS RELEASE

**ARERA opens stakeholder engagement process:
new round of meetings on energy and environment**

The Board met today in Rome with consumer associations to discuss priorities, challenges and solutions in the energy and environmental sectors

Rome, 15 April 2026 – ARERA has launched a new cycle of engagement meetings with key stakeholders in the energy and environmental sectors. The programme was launched today, with the Authority’s Board meeting in Rome consumer associations representing household consumers within the National Council of Consumers and Service Users (CNCU), together with non-household representatives – including SMEs, craft enterprises and the retail sector – to initiate a constructive dialogue on priority issues, emerging challenges and possible shared solutions affecting energy markets and environmental services.

During the meeting, household consumer associations emphasised the importance of strengthening consumer protection, particularly in the current context, by ensuring transparency throughout the different stages of the market supply chain and supporting consumers in making informed decisions. Discussions also focused on protecting and promoting new self-consumption models and Renewable Energy Communities, tackling energy poverty and supporting vulnerable consumers, reducing household energy costs, and reinforcing consumers’ bargaining power in disputes with service providers.

Representatives of non-household consumers emphasised concerns regarding energy costs, including recent developments in on-site energy generation by businesses, as well as the need to streamline connection procedures and contractual processes. Other issues raised concerned the transparency of market offers and the need to reduce the burden of charges on small and micro-enterprises, ensuring fairer tariffs in environmental services.

The matters highlighted will be discussed regularly within the framework of the renewed “Osservatorio della regolazione” [Regulation Observatory], one of the flagship initiatives established by the current ARERA Board.

Additional meetings are scheduled in the coming weeks with operator associations, network companies and leading companies in the regulated sectors.

The feedback received will support the development of ARERA’s 2026-2029 Strategic Plan, which will then be opened to public consultation and formal stakeholder hearings.