

To the attention of Head of State and
Government
Regards: European Council, 24-25 March
2022

Brussels, 22 March 2022

Dear Leaders,

Unjustified Russian aggression against Ukraine has made the clean energy transition even more urgent. We must indeed reduce EU dependency on fossil fuel imports and aim at carbon neutrality. In relation to this, I want to reiterate the European power sector's commitment to be fully carbon-neutral well before 2050 and express our industry's support for more investments in all clean and renewable electric solutions that will help the EU to reduce its dependency on fossil fuel imports.

While Ukrainian utilities are making sustained efforts to restore electricity supply to consumers, EU companies have responded to the call to provide assistance. We welcome the synchronisation with the EU grid as a means to cut the Ukrainian dependency on Russia and ensure constant electricity flows in the event of power plant shutdowns.

It is now high time that Europe shields itself against the fossil fuel price volatility, which has prompted the energy price increase across the continent. This root cause must now be tackled, and Europe must wean itself from imported fossil fuels.

Electrification is undeniably the optimal solution to meet Europe's decarbonisation targets, but also to ensure energy sovereignty, thanks to the expansion of clean and renewable installations.

Our sector is encouraging you to take decisive action in ensuring that electricity is Europe's fuel of choice. Direct electrification can substitute gas and oil for heating and transport purposes, thus significantly reducing our reliance on foreign powers. In addition, long-haul transport of heavy goods and industrial applications can benefit from indirect electrification, if solutions for the conversion of clean electricity into other vectors, such as hydrogen, are incentivised.

In the more immediate future, we must work together to protect customers, speed up energy efficiency measures and ensure the acceptability of the energy transition.

We therefore encourage you to prioritise the measures included in the European Commission's Toolbox to alleviate the burden on end-consumers. Direct financial support to vulnerable customers or structural reductions of taxes and levies on the electricity bills produce immediate benefits and visibly lower the pressure on retail power prices.

At the same time, we urge you to refrain from distortive ad-hoc interventions, which deter investment in clean and renewable energy projects, thus slowing down Europe's exit from imported fossil fuels.

In any case, interventions should primarily address the root cause of the current energy price increase. Implemented in exceptional circumstances, these emergency measures must be harmonised and coordinated at EU level to avoid market fragmentation. They must be temporary, technology-neutral and non-retroactive.


Accelerating the clean energy transition is key for ensuring Europe's energy independence, while delivering on the net-zero ambitions.

Our sector welcomes the European Commission's intention to devise guidelines for enabling faster permitting procedures for clean capacity deployment. To drive the necessary investments, it is now critical to guard investors' confidence through regulatory stability and the promotion of risk-hedging instruments on all timeframes.

Moreover, it is urgent to address the challenges caused by extreme price volatility in the energy derivative markets. This would entail allowing emergency and temporary funding by Central Banks to provide liquidity facilities to clearing banks that are facing systemic risks of severe deterioration of their ability to trade energy.

The electricity industry remains committed to its goal of powering a thriving, competitive, climate-neutral European economy.

Yours sincerely,



Jean-Bernard Lévy
President, Eurelectric