30 March 2022

Dear Executive Vice-Presidents, dear Commissioner,

I address you to follow up on the meeting of the European Council on 24-25 March 2022. The European electricity industry stands ready to support EU policy makers in defending European values and policy objectives.

While acknowledging that the situation is unprecedented and may call for previously unnecessary political measures, we would like to underline the critical importance of guarding the confidence of investors. Right now, investments in the electricity sector are as important as ever.

The Council conclusions note that the Commission will review, as matter of urgency, whether temporary measures proposed by the Member States to deal with the high prices are compatible with Union law.

We urge the Commission to follow its standard practice and allow the industry and other stakeholders to play a role in this process.

Regulatory interventions adopted in a rush to deal with transitory market failures could cause serious harm to other policy goals and to the functioning of the market. Stakeholder consultation would minimise that risk and contribute to ensuring that the decision-making process is well-informed and that outcomes are balanced.

Eurelectric appreciates that the Member States have legitimate reasons for being concerned about the current energy prices and that addressing this situation involves difficult policy choices. The industry is ready to respond at very short notice and will support the Commission and the Member States to the best of our ability.

Yours sincerely,

Kristian Ruby
Secretary-General, Eurelectric