



Eurelectric and The Nature Conservancy issue joint call to support swift publication of the EU Nature Restoration Law

Against the backdrop of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and at a time when the European Union is seeking to accelerate and strengthen its energy independence as stated in the RePowerEU communication, we are strongly supporting the Commission's accelerated deployment of renewables and efforts to improve permitting efficiencies, while going ahead with the important Nature Restoration legislation.

We, in the energy and civil society sectors, come together in asking for adopting an integrated approach towards biodiversity protection and reaching our climate and energy targets, acknowledging that renewable energy deployment is a matter of strategic interest, including for our security of supply and European autonomy.

No time to lose

The RePowerEU Communication clearly states that Member States should swiftly map, assess and ensure suitable land and sea areas for renewable energy projects, commensurate with their national energy and climate plans, the contributions towards the revised 2030 renewable energy target and other factors such as the availability of resources, grid infrastructure and the targets of the EU Biodiversity Strategy.

We support the proposal for EU Members States, as stated in the RePowerEU Communication, to "clearly define areas as particularly suitable ('go-to' areas), while avoiding as much as possible environmentally valuable areas". To this end, the swift publication of the Nature Restoration Law proposal is of utmost importance in order to propose the implementation of the above-mentioned provision and to provide greater clarity to investors.

Taking the global lead in biodiversity protection

For the upcoming COP15 of the biodiversity conference, The Commission, with this legislation, has an opportunity to take a world leading position in the post 2020 conservation effort.

We stand ready to extend our support to the Commission to seek innovative and joined-up solutions that simultaneously work for industry, nature, and communities. We support the need to find 'win-win' solutions that accelerate investments in renewable energies, to help tackle climate change, whilst also delivering greater than ever biodiversity protections and societal benefits.


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