

Dear Commissioner Wopke Hoekstra,

First and foremost, Nordenergi would like to extend our best wishes to you and hope that this letter will be received favourably. Nordenergi is the collaboration between the Nordic energy associations Green Power Denmark, Finnish Energy, Renewables Norway, Samorka and Swedenergy.

The purpose of this letter is to strongly emphasise the importance of advancing the 2040 target of a 90 percent net reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, and to respectfully urge you to continue promoting this target actively.

Nordenergi believes that this target is absolutely crucial - primarily as a response to one of the most pressing challenges of our time: climate change. Efforts to combat climate change must accelerate, and we are firmly of the view that the European Union should continue to lead the way. The 2040 target will be instrumental in setting the EU on a clear path towards achieving climate neutrality by 2050.

Moreover, it is essential to advance ambitious 2040 climate target for the sake of European businesses, which require clarity and confidence in the EU's decarbonisation agenda to ensure continued investment in the green transition. Therefore, it is necessary for the Commission to ensure policy coherence across all relevant areas, aligning them with the EU's climate objectives. In this regard, we advocate that decarbonisation must serve as the overarching policy goal, with electrification as a cornerstone for achieving this ambition.

We particularly highlight the potential of the Industrial Decarbonisation Accelerator Act to play a pivotal role in boosting electrification within the industrial sector and streamlining permitting processes. Furthermore, you can count on our support in relation to the Grids Package and the Electrification Action Plan which are also of importance to meet the climate targets. We need to make sure there is more electricity flowing throughout Europe.

We would also like to draw attention to the Energy Taxation Directive. By making fossil fuels more expensive, this directive has a crucial role to play in reaching the 2040 target. But it should not stand alone. The Commissioner has previously indicated that lowering electricity taxation could strengthen Europe's competitiveness as it encourages a switch from more expensive fossil fuels to cheaper, more secure and clean energy sources. We fully support such initiatives as reducing energy costs without disrupting market-based price mechanisms, which is a key enabler of electrification, which in turn can help lower energy prices and accelerate the green transition.

Furthermore, reaching the 90 percent target will require a robust EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) that encompasses additional sectors. Any expansion of the ETS must be founded on a thorough analysis of existing barriers in order to enhance the system's efficiency and legitimacy. Likewise, we believe it is essential to scale up carbon removals now to ensure the 2040 target remains within reach. These initiatives will in total guide

us on our way to a 90 percent net reduction in emissions and enable Europe to become a net-zero society by 2050

In conclusion, Commissioner, you have Nordenergi's full support in your continued commitment to upholding the 2040 target of a 90 percent net reduction in emissions.

Yours sincerely from Nordenergi

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