

To EU Heads of State and Government

3 March 2014

European wind industry letter ahead of Spring European Council discussions 2030 climate and energy framework

Dear Head of State, dear Head of Government,

At the Spring Council you will be discussing the EU's 2030 Climate and Energy Framework.

The European wind industry is disappointed by the Commission's lack of ambition on renewable energy. We doubt that a 27% renewable energy target binding only at EU level can benefit Europe by driving investments and growth in the wind power sector. We therefore call on you to support and agree on a more ambitious and binding EU target for renewables, of no less than 30%, to be divided in national binding targets.

As highlighted by [business leaders on February 12 in Brussels](#), only such a target will continue to promote green growth and jobs and industrial and technology leadership in onshore and offshore wind power: more than 250,000 jobs have been created in the wind energy sector, and European wind companies are global leaders. The Commission 2030 Impact assessment finds that a renewables target of 30% would create 568,000 more jobs in Europe by 2030, and save €260 bn in fossil fuel imports compared to what has been proposed by the Commission.

Finally, an ambitious and binding renewables target is also crucial to provide the industry with the confidence necessary to reduce the costs of developing renewable energy, and the need for national support mechanisms. An ambitious 2030 RES target would come at no additional costs for Europe. On the contrary, by reducing the risk premium for financial investors and the capital costs of technologies, it will also enable the most cost-effective achievement of the 2020 targets.

To provide investors with the clarity and security they need to invest in Europe's energy transition, the renewable energy target should be clearly set and shared between Member States.

We count on your support, so that Europe can continue to lead in renewable energy and wind power.

Yours faithfully,



Thomas Becker
Chief Executive Officer
European Wind Energy Association