

To the kind attention of **President Ursula von der Leyen**
Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans
Commissioner Kadri Simson
Commissioner Thierry Breton

RE: OPEN LETTER - Let bioenergy make a decisive contribution to European energy security and independence

05 May 2022

Dear President Von der Leyen,
Dear Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans,
Dear Commissioner Kadri Simson,
Dear Commissioner Thierry Breton,

We, the undersigned CEOs, and high-level representatives of the bioenergy industry, urge the EU institutions and Member States to properly include solid biomass and biofuels in the EU strategy to become independent from Russian fossil fuels.

Recent events have demonstrated the shortcomings of European energy policy and how the EU suffers from its high dependency on Russian fossil fuel imports.

We are concerned by the lack of vision within the REPowerEU proposals from the EU Commission that do not include solutions that can offer a quick reduction of this dependency, such as an array of bioenergy applications, waste for energy, and district heating.

We call for a coherent long-term approach to help Europe develop diversified options and foster a secure, stable, and affordable energy mix of the future, based on renewable-only solutions.

Bioenergy is a readily available indigenous solution that can be applied in the short-term to substantially contribute to achieving EU 2030 and 2050 objectives. We note that:

- Bioenergy offers concrete solutions to **substitute gas, oil, and coal in ALL sectors of society:** in heating, power production, industry, transport, and agriculture.
- Solid biomass is **primarily sourced from within Europe (95%) and imports largely come from trusted allies**, making it an invaluable asset to foster EU energy independence and energy security.
- The European bioenergy sector is a **global leader in renewable technologies** with 800.000 jobs and 50.000+ companies across the value chain.
- Bioenergy is readily available and can be **deployed quickly, often at a low cost**. For example, in district heating, switching from fossil fuels to biomass and waste has reduced costs and emissions in many countries. For residential and commercial buildings, pellet; briquettes, or wood chip heating offers a clean and efficient alternative to gas and oil.
- Bioenergy is a **virtuous example of circular bioeconomy also in the industrial sector**, as it can produce renewable energy using residues and waste from several industries and feedstocks, helping to strengthen the concept of a productive supply chain.
- Finally, **a sustainably managed forest is a more resilient forest**. Our sector brings multiple co-benefits for nature conservation, increasing the carbon stock, and reducing disturbances, while generating jobs and income in Europe.

In the [latest report from the IPCC](#), bioenergy is one of the major pathways to climate mitigation, and BECCS (bioenergy + carbon capture and storage) is the **only solution** that can contribute to negative

emissions at a reasonable cost. The IEA included a major contribution from bioenergy power generation in its [10-point plan](#) for reduced European dependency on Russian gas. Unfortunately, the EU Commission only focused on biogas in REPowerEU missing the overall [potential of the sector](#). Similarly, the proposal for **the revised Renewable Energy Directive aims at limiting support for biomass solutions instead of promoting a sound and sustainable framework**.

The bioenergy sector fully supports the energy and climate ambitions of the EU Green Deal that is giving an enthusiastic vision for Europe. The bioenergy industry is highly committed to delivering increasingly efficient technologies which can drastically reduce emissions. We also strongly believe in a sound sustainability framework for biofuels, biogas and solid biomass that will guarantee environmental performance. No other energy source has an equivalent system in place, and this reinforces our belief that we are frontrunners in the energy transition.

European policy makers cannot be doubtful about the role that bioenergy plays. We, the leaders of the bioenergy industry and utilities in Europe, call on our political leaders to allow us to contribute. Together, we can foster the use of sustainable bioenergy in Europe to replace imported coal, oil and gas and ensure a renewable energy mix.

Yours sincerely,

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Petr Krabica, Petr Krabica, Managing Director, Czech Republic
Johanna Lindén, Petro Bio AB, CEO, Sweden
Jindrich Sinkule, Petrojet Trade s.r.o., Manager, Czech Republic
Michael Pfeifer, Pfeifer Holding GmbH, CEO, Austria
Henrik Båge, Phoenix BioPower, CEO, Sweden
Luboš Pasák, Pila Pasák a. s., CEO, Czech Republic
Lorenzo Avello, Planeta Renewables, Managing Director, Italy
Ingo De Buhr, PN Power Plants AG, CEO, Germany
Jonas Rudberg, Porcupine AB, Owner, Sweden
Lydia Brandtner, Pörner Ingenieurgesellschaft, Marketing Manager, Austria
Peter Schlossnikel, Pörner Ingenieurgesellschaft mbH, CEO, Austria
Douglas Heilborn, Port of Oxelösund, CEO, Sweden
Magnus Heimburg, Preem AB, CEO, Sweden
Vladimír Pavlík, Premium Pellets, Managing Director, Czech Republic
John Brick, Premium Pellets Ltd, Director, Ireland
Jindrich Stepanik, PREMIUM PELLETS s.r.o., Business Specialist, Czech Republic
Javier Diaz, Premium Pellets Spain, Director, Spain
Costas Travasaros, Prime Laser Technology, CEO, Greece
Helmut Hoffmann, Prolignis AG, Member Of Board, Germany
Gianfranco De Serio, Prometheus Energia S.r.l., Director, Italy
Luca Elia, PROVANA CALORE S.R.L., CEO, Italy
Jesus Fresneda, PROVISIONA VERDE, S.L., Manager, Spain

Albert Gonzalez Lopez, R&B Equipos De Reciclaje y Biomasa S.L., Manager, Spain
Gerald Wedl, Radius-Kelit Infrastructure GmbH, CEO, Austria
Helena Roos, Radscan AB, CEO, Sweden
Mogens Skov, Rambøll, Director, Bio Energy And Power Generation, Denmark
Blas Angel Ortin Sanchez, RECUPERACIONES ORTIN, S.L., Administrator, Spain
Alberto Gómez, Recursos de la Biomasa SLU, CEO, Spain
Franco Petrigh, Relen snc, Owner, Italy
Antonio Ocaña Martinez, REMICA,S.A., Director , Spain
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Georg Reuss, Reuss Transporte, Energieholz Bebra-Solz, Executive Director, Germany
Francesco Fabbri, ricci pietro srl, CEO, Italy
Andreas Bloderer, RIKA Innovative Ofentechnik GmbH, Product Manager, Austria
Martin Ringhofer, Ringhofer&Partner GmbH, Gf, Austria
Evžen Rojek, ROJEK dřevobráběcí stroje a.s., Business Manager, Czech Republic
Roger Miesen, RWE, CEO RWE Generation, Germany, Netherlands
Jose Raez Cano Raez, S.C.A.. LA CARRERA, Director, Spain
Magnus Norrby, Sågverken Mellansverige Service AB, CEO, Sweden
Christian Müller, Salzhausener Maschinenbautechnik SALMATEC GmbH, CEO, Germany
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Francesco Maissa, Sardinia Bio Energy srl, Director, Italy
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Alessandro Cappellini, Schiedel GmbH & co. KG, President Schiedel International, Germany
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Peter Reiter, SEAMTEC GmbH, CEO, Austria
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Fredrik Munter, Skogsägarna Mellanskog , CEO, Sweden
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Håkan Edh, Södra Skogsenergi, Biofuel Manager, Sweden
Aitor Iregi, Solartecnik S.L, Technician, Spain

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Rudolf Christian Sommerhuber, Sommerhuber GmbH, CEO, Austria
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Alberto Vaccarella, Sorgenia Finale Emilia, President, Italy
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Giorgio Francescone, STF, Technical Director, Italy
Anders Egelrud, Stockholm Exergi, CEO, Sweden
Shamsher Khan, Stockholm Exergi, Vice President, Energy Trading, Sweden
Peter Starz, streisal GmbH, Managing Director, Germany
Wim Vanlede, Stroomop bvba, CEO, Belgium
Jean-François Sidler, Stûv, CEO, Belgium
Alex Mas, Sugimat, Business Development Director, Spain
Anders Jonsson, Sundsvall Energi AB, CEO, Sweden
Eduard Vitković, SUPERIOR TECH d.o.o., CEO, Croatia
Markus Tykkyläinen, Suur-Savon Sähkö Oy, CEO, Finland
Guntars Zvejnieks, Sveaskog Baltfor SIA, Managing Director, Latvia
Gustav Melin, Svebio, CEO, Sweden
Magnus Kyhlberg, Swedish Pellets Association, Chairman, Sweden
Håkan Knutsson, SweHeat, Chairman, Sweden
Lena Bromarker, SWESTEP AB, Founder, Sweden
Karl-Magnus Mattsson, SWESTEP AB, CEO, Sweden
Benedikt Bodner, Syncraft Engineering GmbH, Head Of Project Management, Austria
Tomas Hruska, SZU, Director - General, Czech Republic
Giovanni Tampieri, Tampieri Energie Srl, CEO, Italy
Tomás Boullosa, TBM Representacións, Manager, Spain
Gioele Compagnoni, TCG srl, Owner, Italy
Laura Aldariz Muínelo, TECGAL ENERXIAS SL, Technical, Spain
Rainer Dr. Schrägle, Technologica GmbH, CEO/Owner, Germany
Jaromír Klaban, Teco a.s., CEO, Czech Republic
Klas Gustafsson, Tekniska verken i Linköping AB, Deputy CEO, Sweden
Antonio Pont, Termosun Energias S.L., CEO, Spain
Marian Bilauca, TERMOTAL TM SRL, Owner, Romania
Jose Luna, TEXSIL TEJIDOS AISLANTES S.L., CEO, Spain
Palle Borgström, The Federation of Swedish Farmers, President, Sweden
Joanne Taylor, The Wood Pellet Delivery Company, Office Manager, United Kingdom
Iva Kadlecová, Thomas-velkoobchod s.r.o., Owner, Czech Republic
Vladimíra Pechová, TIMCO s.r.o., Director, Czech Republic
Valentino Vascellari, TRIERA POWER SRL, Administrator, Italy
Kurt Mertes, TSD S.A., CEO, Luxembourg

William Teal, TSI, CEO, USA
Jesus Lopez Casanova, TUBOCAS S.L., Manager, Spain
Paolo Bertuzzi, Turboden SpA – Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, CEO, Italy
Timo Honkanen, Turku Energia Oy, CEO, Finland
Marius Valukynas, UAB Dzūkijos mediena, Director, Lithuania
Algirdas Krupavicius, UAB Lignineko, Managing Director, Lithuania
Franz Bruckner, UBP Holzenergie Sachsen GmbH & Co. KG, Executive Director, Germany
Jan Ridfeldt, Umeå Energi AB, CEO, Sweden
Michael Gebhart, Zisterzienserstift Zwettl, Forest Manager, Austria
Peeter Volke, United Loggers OU, CEO, Estonia
Alex Guindos, Uno-X Forsyning, CEO, Norway
Aku Aarva, Urban Energy Finland (Energiakaupungit ry), Executive Director, Finland
Jessica Marcus, US Industrial Pellet Association, Vice President, Policy & Operations, USA
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Stefan Damlin, Vaasan Sähkö Oy, CEO, Finland
Alejandro Díaz, Vagalume Energia S.L, CEO, Spain
Carita Ollikainen, Valmet Oyj, Head of Corporate Relations, Finland
Björn Sjöström, Varberg Energi, CEO, Sweden
Erik Tellgren, Växjö Energi AB, CEO, Sweden
Jose Carlos Suay Mari, Vda de G.Marl Montañana S.A, CEO, Spain
Johanna Summer, vee GmbH, Managing Director, Austria
Antti Ala-Talkkari, Veljekset Ala-Talkkari Oy, CEO, Finland
Jean-Michel Sylvestre, VENT D'EST SAS, CEO, France
Vladimír Verner, VERNER GOLEM s.r.o., Chief Designer, Czech Republic
Valeria Vinai, Vinai f.lli snc, Partner, Italy
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Björn Forsberg, VTS AB, CEO, Sweden
Stefaan Lauwers, VYNCKE, CEO, Belgium
Marek Rebicek, Waldera, CEO, Czech Republic
Jonathan Blondeel, Walvert, CEO, Belgium
Mait Kaup, Warmeston, CEO, Estonia
Mathieu Van Gehuchten, Watt Else, CEO, Belgium
Karl Goeller, WEGER BIOMASSE SRL, Owner, Italy
Martin Wodak, WHN Biomass Synergy Consulting GmbH, Executive Director, Austria
Michael Kerschbaum, Windhager Zentralheizung Technik GmbH, Head of Test Stand, Austria
Gerard Crosse, WoodCo Renewable Energy Ltd, CEO, Ireland
Kerry Durrant, woodpellet delivery Co, Director, United Kingdom
Christophe Dauriac, woodtech france, General Manager, France
Daniele Rigamonti, Woodtech France SA, President, France
Daniele Rigamonti, Woodtech Italy srl, CEO, Italy
Christian Rakos, World Bioenergy Association, President, Sweden
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Neil Holland, Y Pellets, Managing Director, United Kingdom

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