

# Cabinet of Commissioner Kadri SIMSON - Minutes of VideoConference

## VIDEOCONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS

<b>Title</b>	<b>Meeting with CEOs of leading wind energy companies</b>
<b>Date</b>	27-01-2022
<b>Participants</b>	Ext : [REDACTED] Enel Green Power), [REDACTED] EDF Renewables, [REDACTED] RWE Offshore Wind), [REDACTED] EDP and EDP Renewables), [REDACTED] Vestas), [REDACTED] WindEurope), [observers from WindEurope Secretariat] [REDACTED] COM: Commissioner Simson, Barbara Glowacka, Helena Hinto (CAB SIMSON), [REDACTED] (DG ENER C1)
	<b>Ares initial request :</b> <a href="#">(2021)7439639</a>
	Disclosure authorization : <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES - <input type="checkbox"/> NO - <input type="checkbox"/> Partial (pls highlight unauthorized parts)
<b>Issues raised &amp; follow-up</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The meeting took place at the request of WindEurope. The purpose was for the CEOs of the leading wind energy companies to present the key barriers to renewable energy project permitting they had experienced, and suggest some possible good practices for the upcoming Commission guidance on this topic.</li> <li>The CEOs raised concerns and presented good practices in several EU Member States with regards to the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarifying the roles of the different authorities involved in permitting;</li> <li>Labelling renewables projects as strategic in order to fast-track them;</li> <li>A "rule of positive silence" as a solution to the issue where authorities involved in granting a permit have not given their opinion by the agreed time;</li> <li>The lack of skilled staff in permitting authorities;</li> <li>DK, NL and BE as good practice examples for one-stop-shops for offshore renewables projects;</li> <li>Resolving spatial planning constraints by e.g. committing a certain percentage of national territory for renewables development;</li> <li>Simplified rules to realise the potential of repowering wind parks; IT is a good practice example in this regard;</li> <li>A facilitated permitting regime for combined wind/solar/storage projects;</li> <li>Focus on protecting the species not the individual specimen in balancing the renewables ambition with biodiversity protection;</li> <li>Digitalisation as an enabler for monitoring and tracking the status of the project and reducing costs;</li> <li>Clear and standardised procedures for project promoters;</li> <li>Concerns regarding the loss of competitiveness of the turbine manufacturing industry as a result of the lack of permitted projects.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Commissioner thanked the participants for their input and referred to the success of the concluded TEN-E proposal and the proposed revision of the Renewable Energy Directive. Member States have included reforms in support of permitting for renewables in their Recovery and Resilience Plans, and implementation is underway. The Commission will organise workshops and further exchanges with stakeholders in the preparation of the guidance, in addition to the public consultation.</li> </ul>