



Kaori Simson
European Commissioner for Energy
200, Rue de la Loi
B-1049 Brussels

2 December 2021

Dear Commissioner,

Thank you for the video message you recorded for the annual WindEurope event in Copenhagen last week. We showed it at the opening after a speech from Crown Prince Frederik and before a panel discussion between Andreas Feicht, Tinne Van der Straeten and Claude Turmes. There were 900 people in the auditorium.

The event was a success. 8,000 people attended in person. 400 companies exhibited. And 11 national Energy Ministers took part. We were grateful that Hans van Steen and Antonio Lopez from DG ENER were able to come, along with officials from DGs ECFIN, ENV and MARE.

I do hope that you will be able to come to the 2022 WindEurope annual event in person. It is taking place in Bilbao on 5-7 April. Could I warmly invite you to speak in the opening session on the morning of Tuesday 5 April.

The wind industry in Europe is still struggling. We're building less than 15 GW a year of new wind farms in the EU - whereas the 40% renewables target requires 30 GW every year to 2030. And only 1 of the 5 wind turbine manufacturers in Europe is making money. The main problem as before is the complex permitting rules and procedures. Not enough new wind farms are getting permitted. Your guidance to the Member States next year on how to simplify permitting is of crucial importance.

We are working with your Services on the detail of the permitting guidance. A group of CEOs of the leading wind farm developers (e.g. Enel, RWE, Iberdrola, EDF, EDP) would also like to meet with you to explain the permitting difficulties they have to contend with and to offer their thoughts on how your guidance can improve things. Would you be able to meet with a small group of them, ideally in person but online if necessary, some time in January or February?

Yours sincerely,

