(CAB-VON DER LEYEN)

Sent: mercredi 9 mars 2022 15:41

(CAB-VON DER LEYEN)

Subject: leaked Communication on Joint European Action for more affordable,

secure and sustainable energy

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Sent: Thursday, March 3, 2022 10:29 AM

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Subject: leaked Communication on Joint European Action for more affordable, secure and sustainable energy

I just went through the leaked Communication initially foreseen for 2.3. and now scheduled for 9.3..

While there have been some improvements on renewables and on energy efficiency compared to the first leak, I would strongly recommend to move this back by two or three weeks and reflect again on what it will include.

The current situation is so unstable re fundamentals of the energy system (fuels availability, prices) that some actions might seem outdated shortly after adoption.

Most importantly, though, many of the "actions" in the Communication include only little that is really actionable and where it is clear how it will make a difference, i.e. what exactly could/should/shall happen, how much fossil gas it will save, by when, how much it would cost, where supportive public funds could come from (with solidarity in mind), and how delivery will be organised. - In my view, this is what is needed now to give orientation and a sense of stability within the chaos and to avoid that national emergency programmes create tensions within Europe.

Beyond the very short term emergency response measures that prepare for the next winter, we need *actionable packages of measures/ initiatives* that frontload investments anyhow necessary for climate reasons, so that Europe is significantly less dependent on fossil gas imports in a 3-5 year perspective, ie BEFORE the Ff55 regulatory framework is fully implemented.

One key challenge that must explicitly be addressed will be on blue vs green hydrogen. If fossil gas prices remain this high, there is no business case for blue hydrogen, uses of available green hydrogen will need to be prioritised even more towards no regret applications, and industrial users depending on the availability of (green) hydrogen to go forward with investments need even more clarity now.

Best regards,

Beste Grüße / Best regards

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