



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Cabinet of Commissioner Adina Vălean
Head of Cabinet

Brussels, 21.04.2021
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Dear [REDACTED],
Dear [REDACTED],
Dear [REDACTED],
Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your letter where you draw our attention to the question of feedstock eligibility in the context of the ReFuelEU Aviation initiative. We are pleased to acknowledge your support of the European Green Deal and that the companies you represent are taking action in line with the EU's climate objectives.

In line with the newly adopted EU climate targets by 2030 and the aspirational objective of carbon neutrality by 2050, it is essential that all transport modes reduce their emissions in the coming years. This will notably require air transport – a 'hard to decarbonise' sector, to accelerate its efforts to become more sustainable. For aviation, options for emissions reductions are limited, costly and take time to implement.

The most promising avenue for the air transport sector to reduce its emissions will be to reduce its dependence on fossil energy and transition towards sustainable aviation fuels. Sustainable aviation fuels are technologically ready to be used on today's aircraft

engines, achieve significant emissions savings compared to fossil fuels, and if introduced gradually, could represent a moderate cost increase for airlines.

The ReFuelEU Aviation initiative aims to support the uptake of sustainable aviation fuels, while ensuring the stability of the aviation internal market. It is essential to establish a clear and reliable regulatory framework driving investments towards SAF technologies that will deliver high environmental gains. This is why the ReFuelEU Aviation initiative is expected to focus on biofuels produced from feedstock listed in Annex IX of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 and synthetic fuels.

Article 28(6) of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 requires the Commission to review regularly whether additional raw materials can be added to Annex IX. To prepare the evidence base for the review the Commission has launched a study that will assess the suitability of a large range of feedstock based on the strict criteria set out in Article 28(6). The work on this study is still ongoing and the Commission has not yet taken a decision on potential additions.

Yours sincerely,

(e-signed)
Walter GOETZ