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Miguel ARIAS CAÑETE
Member of the European Commission

Brussels, 16 April 2018
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Dear Ms [REDACTED],

Thank you for the policy paper on climate and energy policies framework for 2025 you shared on 14 March 2018. We highly appreciate your support to the Energy Union and the "Clean Energy for all Europeans" package.

The support of stakeholders and companies such as ENGIE is extremely valuable in order to ensure that Europe can deliver on the expectations of its citizens and complete not only the Energy Union, but also on our commitments under the Paris Agreement.

We aim at making the Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy a reality by 2019. This will put us on the path towards a sustainable energy future, contribute to modernising the EU economy and to enabling business and European citizens to reap the benefits of the energy transition in terms of jobs and growth.

Achieving this entails addressing the wide ranging challenges faced by the energy sector you refer to in your paper. We share your views on the importance of long-term signals for investments and on the need for a robust, stable and visible regulatory framework, which requires more integrated and coordinated policies at the European level. These are the aims we are pursuing with the "Clean Energy for all Europeans" package currently in co-decision. We are confident that an agreement on all files under the package is possible this year, thereby providing the legislative framework of the future European energy system. In addition to regulatory stability, the integrated national energy and climate plans for the period 2020-2030 which Member States have already started preparing in the context of the Governance of the Energy Union will provide investors with the necessary clarity and stability while ensuring that Europe collectively reaches its energy and climate targets.

ENGIE's policy paper rightly identifies the major themes and challenges for the energy system of the future. The "3 Ds" of decarbonisation, digitalisation and decentralisation are indeed at the forefront of our energy transition. I am glad to say that our "Clean Energy for all Europeans" package already addresses these aspects, but further action and support are of course welcome. Overall, your findings confirm our established objectives, namely the need for putting energy efficiency first and making the

EU the number one in renewables while ensuring a fair deal for consumers and reaping the enormous benefits of the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Against this background, we thank you and take note of your recommendations on the priorities for a political and legislative agenda for the future of energy and climate policy in view of our ongoing work. This comprises the Communication on the Future of EU energy and climate policy, including the future of the Euratom Treaty that was announced by President Juncker. This Communication is part of the forward looking approach set-out by Presidency Juncker, for a Union of 27, more united, stronger and more democratic.

Furthermore, as tasked by the March European Council, the Commission will present a proposal for long-term decarbonisation strategy with a horizon 2050 and beyond. We will look at what can be done in the EU, across all dimensions of the energy and climate policy, for instance with regard to issues such as technology developments in industry, the interaction with the land use sector, the deployment of renewables and energy efficiency.

In the meantime, the Commission will adopt in May its proposal for the multiannual financial framework after 2021. In this context, the Energy Union and the clean energy transition will be a political priority.

The Energy Union and Europe's energy transition can only be successful if all segments of society, including companies with significant experience and expertise such as ENGIE come together and move in the same direction. I would therefore like to thank you once more for your support and to look forward to a continued excellent cooperation with ENGIE.

Yours sincerely,

Miguel ARIAS CAÑETE

