



Flash report on bilateral meeting of Director General Ditte Juul Jørgensen and MEP Ville Niinistö (Greens/FI), coordinator of the Greens in ITRE, on 8 October 2019

MEP Niinistö welcomed this first bilateral exchange of views, emphasising the intention of the Greens and himself to be in close contact with Commission when working on the Green Deal

- most important aspects to be addressed in his view: good investment programme, development of new markets for a low carbon economy, phase-out of fossil fuel subsidies and long term investment in fossil fuel infrastructure (less gas in PCI list!), and ambitious 2030 framework to pave the grounds for 2050, need to push MS
- we need to give investors and the energy industry a reliable framework with a clear vision on how we want to decarbonise the sector, so that the private sector can adapt (e.g. to go to more hydrogen) and make 'real economy investments' possible

The Director-General agreed and pointed at three things that are important now:

- Regulatory framework: on the one hand implement CE4AE package with the help of NECPs, and work on new initiatives at the same time; energy important role in Green Deal; on the other hand collect all the necessary data to thoroughly evaluate the 2030 ambitions in view of the review clauses
- Infrastructure: even though we will still need gas in our transition period and have financing of some gas infrastructure projects (where security of supply is vital, especially in the East), we need to look at infrastructure in the context of a long term decarbonisation strategy and see where we can make it greener (hydrogen, biogases etc); next PCI list will already see fewer gas projects
- Investments: clearly necessary to achieve ambitions, especially for energy efficiency; this includes EU funding but more importantly initiatives at local levels, so we need to push MS while at the same time working closely with VPs Dombrovskis and Timmermans to find the right incentives to boost private investments

Other topics mentioned by Niinistö were

- promotion of biomass in district heating, which could help Eastern countries to reduce coal and becoming less dependent on Russian gas
- early reform of the ETS, not only to extend it to aviation and maritime, but also to get the right incentives for more investments
- nuclear safety of third country nuclear power plants (Belarus!) crucial
- Carbon border tax: yes could be a good 'joker card' to tackle issues like carbon leakage in the short term (he particularly liked the idea of addressing imports of coal produced electricity from third countries); in the long term, though, we would only succeed globally with our aims if we get other big countries and emitters on board of fighting climate change and promoting clean energy

ENER A2

Please note that all reports on EP and Council meetings will be stored in this sharepoint folder:
<https://myintracomm-collab.ec.europa.eu/dg/ENER/MinutesofMeetings/flashreports/default.aspx>



European Commission

DG ENERGY

Unit A2 – Communication and Interinstitutional relations

Coordination of the interinstitutional relations with the European Parliament

Rue Jean-André De Mot, 24

B-1049 Brussels



[DG ENER on EUROPA](#)

[@Energy4Europe](#)