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Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 5:55 PM
To: VELLA Karmenu (CAB-VELLA)
Cc: Henry.SAINTBRIS@suez-env.com; COSTELLO Patrick (CAB-VELLA)
Subject: Letter from SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT- circular economy

Dear Commissioner Vella,

We are pleased to send you, in attachment, a letter from Henry Saint Bris, Suez Environnement's Vice President for Marketing and Institutional Relations, writing to you on the occasion of the current European Commission internal consultation on the Commission Work Plan for 2015.

We would be very happy to discuss this issue further with you in the coming weeks.

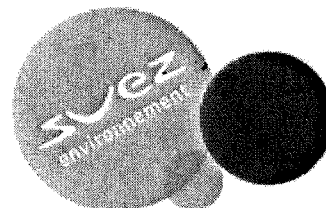
Please accept, dear Sir, our deepest regards.

Caroline MAIRESSE

Head of EU Public Affairs / Responsable Affaires Européennes

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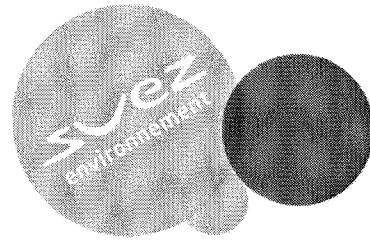


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Senior Vice-President Marketing and Institutional Relations

Karmenu Vella
European Commission
Avenue de Beaulieu, 5
1160 Auderghem

Paris, November 25th 2014

Dear European Commissioner Vella,

I am writing to you on the occasion of the current European Commission internal consultation on the Commission Work Plan for 2015. In this context, we heard that the Circular economy Package was questioned and could be in the pieces of legislation that would need revision and would thus be withdrawn for the moment.

SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT has been working on Circular economy with the European Commission and the other EU Institutions for many years now. We contributed to the Europe 2020 Strategy including the Resource Efficiency Flagship, the Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe, the 7th Environmental Action Plan, followed closely the work done by the EREP Platform thanks to an annexe working group including industries along the entire value chain (Unilever, Philips, Umicore, P&G, GE, Microsoft, 3M), and are active in the EIP on Raw Material.

We are also closely involved with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation (Circular Economy 100), as well as other industries, with whom we wrote a common letter "*underlying the need and opportunity for economic systemic change in the EU*" (Philips, Unilver, Michelin), and the Conseil de Coopération Economique in which I animated a task-force on Environment and Industry which included a dozen companies.

I take this opportunity to highlight the crucial importance of the Circular Economy Package and review of the Waste legislation for our sector of activity, but also for jobs, growth and competitiveness of the EU Industry at large.

These texts bring much needed clarifications and adaptations of the legislative framework that structures the fast evolving waste sector, moving from waste to resource and volume to value.

Secondly, and crucially, the Commission's proposal is an excellent start in articulating the European Commission's vision on Circular Economy with the framework for a re-industrialized Europe, merging environmental gains with economic ones. It represents a coherent and powerful paradigm shift to secure EU's competitiveness and access to essential resources while promoting sustainable growth and employment for the European industry.

Adopting a Circular economy in the EU will bring significant benefits in line with several of President Junckers' 10 priorities:

- A Circular Economy is *A new boost for Jobs, Growth and Investment* and will *Strengthen the EU Industrial Base* in various sectors of activities along the entire value-chain¹.
- It equally contributes to *A resilient Energy Union with a Forward-looking Climate Change Policy*².
- Finally, recycling, through the use of Secondary Raw Material, will lower the EU's dependency on imported raw material, making it *A stronger, more independent global actor* and bringing cost savings for the EU Industry³.

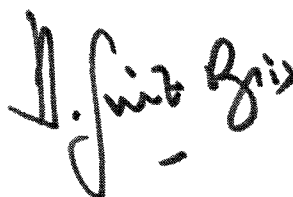
The Commission's proposal surely needs to be fine-tuned together with the European Parliament, Member States and all relevant stakeholders. However, SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT strongly believes building a favorable framework for Circular Economy should remain a priority and urges the Commission to keep the package in its work plan for 2015.

We will for sure be very pleased to continue to work together in a constructive manner, to advance on the necessary adaptations and will always be available for exchanges on this crucial topic for the EU competitiveness and leadership on the world stage.

I would be very happy to come and discuss this issue further with you in the coming weeks.

Please accept, dear Sir, my deepest regards.

Henry SAINT BRIS



¹ **3.9%** potential boost to **EU GDP: 580 000 new jobs** if 2030 targets are met; and over **1 million: job** creation potential of remanufacturing globally and recycling in Europe, Source: EC COM/2014/0398 and "*Towards the Circular Economy*", Ellen MacArthur Foundation, McKinsey, World Economic Forum (2014).

² If the 2020 recycling targets are met, the waste management sector will contribute 1/5th of the **EU 20% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions target**. Source: "Resource savings and CO2 reduction potential in waste management in Europe and the possible contribution to the CO2 reduction target in 2020", Prognos, (2008)

³ Annual **savings potential of €630 billion for EU industry**, helping solve problems identified in the EC COM(2011) 25: Tackling the challenges in commodity markets and on raw materials. Source: "*Guide to resource efficiency in manufacturing: Experiences from improving resource efficiency in manufacturing companies*". Europe INNOVA (2012)