

Günther H. Oettinger
Member of the European Commission

Brussels, 19. 10. 2012
JB/cw ARES(2012)S1444580

Dear Madam / Sir,

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to minimise the indirect land use change impacts of biofuels. On behalf of the European Commission, we would like to thank you for your on-going interest in this topic.

The Commission believes that biofuels need to deliver robust greenhouse gas emissions savings in order to fulfil their role as a leading technology in decarbonising the transport sector as foreseen in the low-carbon economy roadmap 2050 and the energy roadmap 2050. Indirect land-use change emissions are a concern in this regard and we therefore need to find a robust solution which provides for a reasonably lasting, reliable policy framework that ensures the sustainability of the biofuels we use.

That is why the Commission has just adopted a legislative proposal for minimising indirect land-use change emissions. It follows the strategic direction offered by the College orientation debate on this topic¹, and has been adopted together with an impact assessment, all available under http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/biofuels/land_use_change_en.htm. Let us reassure you that the information you have provided has been taken into consideration before this legislative proposal was adopted.

Yours sincerely


Günther H. OETTINGER

¹ Minutes available at <http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/10061/2012/EN/10061-2012-2000-EN-F-0.Pdf>