

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** lundi 18 mai 2020 09:37  
**To:** CAB SIMSON ARCHIVES  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: WACKER's proposal for competitive EU solar industry  
**Attachments:** Onepager\_Industrial electricity price.pdf; EU COM Energy\_Meeting 14\_2\_2020.pdf; Flowchart\_RES and ISP.pdf

Hi,  
 For registration please. Thank you,  
 Jo

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@wacker.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 18, 2020 7:34 AM  
**To:** SIMSON Kadri (CAB-SIMSON) <Kadri.SIMSON@ec.europa.eu>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** WACKER's proposal for competitive EU solar industry

Dear Mrs. Simson,

on behalf of Wacker Chemie and SolarPowerEurope, I would like to extend my appreciation for taking the time to discuss with us, the representatives of the European solar industry, in last Thursday's webinar. The Commission has launched several milestone packages in the past few months and it will be of essence for the future of European industrial competitiveness that these initiatives are implemented in the most ambitious way possible. While COVID19 is testing the EU's capabilities of effective crisis response, we at Wacker also believe that it presents an opportunity to mobilize the necessary investments and political will for truly taking the first step towards a more resilient and climate-neutral economy.

This inevitably includes a strong European solar industry at its very core, both for kick-starting economic growth post-Corona as well as for speeding up the climate-neutral transition towards 2050. As the world's leading and Europe's only producer of solar and semiconductor polysilicon, Wacker is a strategic industrial component located at the very beginning of the value chain for driving the renewable energy transformation and digitalization in the EU, providing over 3000 high wage industrial jobs across the European continent.

Building on Thursday's brief presentation, I would like to reiterate the key messages that were highlighted by Wacker:

**1. Decarbonizing the European industry and economy by 2050 starts with renewable energy.** The EU must ensure that the domestic renewable energy production capacity is massively scaled-up to match the growing demand, thereby also securing industrial autonomy over the energy transition (see Flowchart\_RES and ISP.pdf).

**Recommendation:** Solar must be acknowledged as a strategic value chain. The Commission should re-launch European solar production via new investment packages (e.g. EU Recovery Package) and IPCEIs, thereby accelerating renewable deployment and strengthening Europe's

technological and industrial autonomy from Asia towards decarbonization. This should be complemented with ambitious renewable energy targets for 2030.

**2. The energy-intensive production steps of solar, such as polysilicon, must be adequately supported to withstand the growing pressure from Asian competitors. European carbon leakage protection must therefore include an instrument that considers the incremental transformation costs (OPEX), mainly resulting from green electrification, to enable CO<sub>2</sub>-free production technologies to be competitive in a global environment.**

**Recommendation:** Introducing industrial electricity prices based on contracts for differences would offer economic incentives to invest in electrification as well as provide effective support for transitioning sectors exposed to carbon leakage risk.

**3. Funding for OPEX-instruments must be secured either on a European level or by allowing Member States to establish national aid instruments.**

**Recommendation:** If there is no possibility for EU funding, then the State Aid Guidelines for Environment and Energy (EEAG) must be revised in a manner that allows Member States to give targeted support according to their structural needs.

Please find attached the slides from last Thursday as well as a one-pager on our key initiative for introducing industrial electricity prices for energy-intensive sectors in risk of carbon leakage. We cordially invite you and the members of your cabinet to a follow-up meeting, in order to exchange more detailed information on the presented points.

Lastly, we wish you bon courage for the upcoming weeks and thank you in advance for the excellent work towards a stronger European solar industry.

Kind regards,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name]

Wacker Chemie AG  
Johannes-Hess-Strasse 24  
84489 Burghausen

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[Redacted address line]

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