

BI(16)10049:1 – DDJ/mvs

Mr Miguel Arias Cañete
Commissioner
European Commission
200, rue de la Loi
BE-1049 Brussels

Brussels, 22nd November 2016

Re: Interservice consultation on the winter energy package - progressive elimination of first generation biofuels

Dear Commissioner,

The Commission's proposals for the "winter energy package" aim to progressively eliminate first generation biofuels.

According to information we have received, the Commission has suggested entirely unrealistic targets for first generation biofuels and advanced biofuels.

Copa and Cogeca therefore call on the Commission to table more feasible proposals. Copa and Cogeca thus suggest the following:


- Maintain a target of at least 7% until 2030 for first generation biofuels in order to protect current production capacity.
- Introduce a clause to review the targets for first generation biofuels in 2025 in order to account for the true commercial development of advanced biofuels.

Copa and Cogeca advocate developing a stable and targeted European policy for first generation biofuels so that they may act as a catalyst to further develop advanced biofuels and the bioeconomy at large. It is fundamental to avoid renationalising European policy decisions on first generation biofuels and the market for said biofuels. Otherwise, extremely negative repercussions could affect the functioning of the single market.

Yours faithfully,



Martin Merrill
President of Copa



Thomas Magnusson
President of Cogeca