

**Frans Timmermans**  
Executive Vice-President of the European Commission

**Kadri Simson**  
European Commissioner for Energy

**Thierry Breton**  
European Commissioner for the Internal Market



Brussels, 3 July 2020

**Choose Renewable Hydrogen – A future-proof EU Hydrogen Strategy delivering on the green recovery**

Dear Executive-Vice President,  
Dear Commissioners,

The upcoming Energy System Integration and Hydrogen Strategies are decisive steps to ensure the successful delivery of the EU's commitment to climate-neutrality by 2050.

Amidst the COVID-19 health and economic crises, Europe needs to prioritise the most efficient, sustainable and cost-effective pathways to decarbonise its economy. In the past years renewables such as wind and solar have become the most affordable energy sources, accelerating the decarbonisation of the power sector and creating long-term jobs for over 400,000 Europeans. Renewables provide a proven and scalable solution to achieve full decarbonisation.

More than 60% of final energy consumption can be covered by direct electrification of final energy uses, such as road transport, heating and buildings, and industrial processes, with an energy system based on renewables. The upcoming Energy System Integration Strategy must accelerate the deployment of renewable electricity across these sectors, modernising Europe's electricity grid infrastructure and driving the electrification of the economy.

The potential of renewables in Europe remains largely untapped. The sustained deployment of renewables will enable the production of CO<sub>2</sub> free and cost-competitive renewable hydrogen - making fossil-based alternatives redundant. Produced through electrolysis and with 100% renewable electricity, renewable hydrogen is the key to bringing forward the competitive decarbonisation of those sectors difficult to electrify, such as energy intensive industries, aviation and shipping. All while enhancing our energy security and helping balance our energy system.

The upcoming EU Hydrogen Strategy must build on our flourishing renewables industry to develop a robust and competitive EU electrolyser industry. Together, the renewables, storage and electrolyser industries can be the bedrock of Europe's energy sector employing millions of Europeans by 2050.

But investors need clear guidance and visibility. The EU renewable hydrogen success story can only be achieved by enacting a clear commitment towards renewable hydrogen as the only "Clean hydrogen". As the one pathway compatible with climate neutrality, renewable hydrogen must be the focus of market pull measures, industrial up-scaling and R&D - notably in the frame of the EU Clean Hydrogen Alliance.

Our respective organisations, representing industry and civil society, stand ready to deliver, supporting a green and job-rich recovery and paving the way for a climate-neutral, inclusive and resilient EU economy.

Yours sincerely,

