



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 24.5.2022  
C(2022) 3514 final

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Bundesrat for its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure, and repealing Directive 2014/94/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council {COM(2021) 559 final}.*

*This proposal forms part of a broader package of ambitious measures adopted by the Commission in July 2021, known as the 'Fit for 55' package, which is designed to ensure that the European Union meets its obligations under Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 June 2021 establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulations (EC) No 401/2009 and (EU) 2018/1999 ('European Climate Law'), namely to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 and to cut CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by at least 55% by 2030. These measures were originally announced in the Commission's Communication on a European Green Deal, which also noted that transport emissions in the EU would need to be reduced by 90% by 2050 to meet the EU's climate objectives. To that end, the aim of the proposal on alternative fuels infrastructure is to ensure that all users of alternatively fuelled vehicles (including vessels and aircraft) are able to move around the EU smoothly thanks to the availability and usability of a dense, widespread network of alternative fuels infrastructure.*

*The rapid deployment of high-quality and state-of-the-art recharging and refuelling infrastructure is therefore essential to deliver on the European Green Deal. To achieve this, the Commission has proposed mandatory minimum targets for infrastructure deployment, minimum requirements for quality of use and requirements for interoperability, which are considered essential if such infrastructure is to develop swiftly in all Member States and be acceptable for users.*

*The Commission welcomes the Bundesrat's support for the proposal, in particular with respect to the proposed introduction of mandatory minimum deployment targets for electric recharging infrastructure, price transparency for end users and provision of data to the National Access Points.*

*Ms Christine SCHWARZ-FUCHS  
President of the Bundesrat  
Dr.-Karl-Renner-Ring 3,  
1017 Wien*

*The Commission also notes the Bundesrat's suggestions and concerns with respect to specific elements of the proposal.*

*The Commission agrees with the Bundesrat that the deployment of hydrogen refuelling stations and recharging stations for heavy-duty vehicles can pose challenges in particular in densely populated areas. The Commission's proposal considers those by leaving full flexibility as to where such infrastructure within an urban node can be provided. The Commission also agrees that infrastructure should be provided in multimodal terminals including for public transport operations. However, the proposal addresses publicly accessible infrastructure only, while recharging for captive fleet and in privately operated multimodal terminals are not publicly accessible. Infrastructure in multimodal terminals is therefore addressed in the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network, amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1153 and Regulation (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulation (EU) 1315/2013<sup>1</sup>. With respect to the aspects raised on accessibility, the Commission would like to point out that access to infrastructure for persons with disabilities is addressed in the proposal by ensuring that Member States address such issues in the national policy frameworks and by envisaging to adopt EU wide technical specifications in that respect, based on an adopted new standardisation request to European standardisation organisations.*

*The Bundesrat's opinion also addresses general transport aspects, such as the need for energy efficiency and the modal shift from road to rail. Such aspects go beyond the provision of alternative fuels infrastructure and are addressed in various other legislative proposals under the 'Fit for 55' package and in COM(2021) 812 final addressed above.*

*The Bundesrat's Opinion has been made available to the Commission's representatives assisting the ongoing negotiations of the co-legislators, the European Parliament and the Council, and will inform these discussions.*

*The Commission hopes that the clarifications provided in this reply address the issues raised by the Bundesrat and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President*

*Adina-Ioana Vălean  
Member of the Commission*

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<sup>1</sup> COM(2021) 812 final.