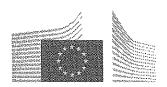
EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Brussels, 20.02.2013 C(2013) 708 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Sénat for its Opinion on the Communication on an Energy Roadmap 2050 {COM(2011) 885 final} and apologises for the delay in replying.

The Commission shares the Sénat's views on many important points, in particular that security of supply remains a fundamental objective of EU energy policy and that the transition of the energy system must be conducted in a way that does not compromise on this objective. Moreover, it agrees that the internal energy market must be completed by 2014; that Member States have the right to choose between different energy sources provided that EU law is fully respected; and that economic and financial impacts of energy transition must be fully considered for any further legislative proposal in this field.

Regarding the Sénat's comments on nuclear and CCS (Carbon Capture and Storage), the Roadmap does not choose a preferred pathway but rather shows possible development in previously defined assumptions. Nuclear energy is a decarbonisation option that today provides most of the EU's low-carbon electricity. While the analysis of the Roadmap 2050 suggests that long-term transition of the energy system is possible also with only a limited contribution from nuclear, it further shows that nuclear energy contributes to lower system costs and lower electricity prices. Uncertainty about the commercial roll-out of CCS is explicitly addressed in the Roadmap scenarios and the Commission shares the Sénat's view that technical and economic viability of this technology still needs to be demonstrated.

The Commission hopes that these comments address the issues raised in the Sénat's Opinion and looks forward to continuing our policy dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

Maroš Šefčovič Vice-President

Mr Milan ŠTĚCH President of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic Valdštejnské naměstí 17/4 CZ – 118 01 PRAGUE 1