



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 23.VIII.2013  
C(2013) 5497 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Senát of the Czech Republic for its Opinion concerning the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 98/70/EC relating to the quality of petrol and diesel fuels and amending Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources {COM(2012) 595 final} and apologises for the delay in replying.*

*The Commission welcomes that the Senát is supportive of the main elements of the proposal, and of the limitation for the contribution of conventional biofuels to achieving the 2020 targets in particular. It hopes that the key elements will be retained by the European legislator in the on-going negotiations on the proposal in order to keep the balance between the environmental and economic issues at stake.*

*The Commission takes note of the other biofuel related aspects raised by the Senát which go beyond the issue of emissions from indirect land-use change caused by the use of biofuels in the EU. The Commission will give due consideration to the aspects raised by the Senát in the course of the on-going negotiations on the proposal. They are also useful for the reflection on renewable energy policy post 2020 which the Commission has launched with its Green Paper in March this year (see COM (2013) 169 final).*

*The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Senát in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Connie Hedegaard  
Member of the Commission*

*Mr Milan ŠTĚCH  
President of the Senát  
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