



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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Dear Chairs,

The Commission would like to thank the Folketing for its opinion on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the internal market for electricity (recast) {COM(2016) 861 final}, the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on risk preparedness in the electricity sector {COM(2016) 862 final}, the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (recast) {COM(2016) 863 final} and the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning common rules for the internal market in electricity (recast) {COM(2016) 864 final}.

These proposals are part of the "Clean Energy for All Europeans" package, adopted by the Commission in order to establish a stable and forward-looking regulatory framework to meet upcoming energy challenges. The measures included in the package focus on the following three main objectives: energy efficiency first, achievement of a global leadership in renewable energies and a fair deal for consumers.

The Commission has taken due note of the views expressed by the Folketing in its opinion and would like to provide a number of clarifications regarding the proposals. It trusts that these will allay the Folketing's concerns.

As regards the risks of "overprioritising interconnectors" as referred to in the Folketing's opinion, the Commission wishes to underline that one of the objectives of the package is to ensure transnational cooperation between Member States in order to ensure a better integration of renewables. It does not require prioritising interconnectors over other means for the use of generation surplus.

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*cc Ms Pia KJÆRSGAARD
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The Commission would also like to stress that according to the proposed Regulation on Risk Preparedness, the plans are to be established and adopted by each Member State. To ensure coherence between national risk preparedness plans the proposal foresees a consultation of the draft plans with the other Member States.

As regards market-based price formation, the Commission considers that several tools for the protection of vulnerable customers remain available to Member States, including direct payments or other types of financial and non-financial measures, provided that they do not result in interventions in the setting of the supply price. Such interventions represent an important market barrier by limiting competition and preventing new entries into the market as shown in the Impact Assessment accompanying the Package. Building on the existing acquis, the provisions on market-based prices aim at removing this barrier in line with the subsidiarity principle and based on the competence established under Article 194 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union on ensuring the functioning of the energy market.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Folketing and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Miguel Arias Cañete
Member of the Commission*