



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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*Mr Jean BIZET
President of the European Affairs
Committee of the Sénat
Palais du Luxembourg
15, rue de Vaugirard
F – 75291 PARIS Cédex 06*

*cc. Mr Gérard LARCHER
President of the Sénat
Palais du Luxembourg
15, rue de Vaugirard
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Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Sénat for its Opinion concerning the exemption of lead in crystal glass as listed in Annex III to Directive 2011/65/EU on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment¹ (hereinafter "the RoHS Directive").

The Commission has taken due note of the views expressed by the Sénat in its Opinion and will take them into account when deciding on the way forward on this exemption.

The Commission is pleased to have this opportunity to provide some clarifications on the state of play relating to the specific exemption.

On 16 January 2015 the Commission received an application² pursuant to Article 5 of the RoHS Directive for the renewal of the exemption to the restrictions of the use of certain hazardous substances of lead in crystal glass as listed in Annex III to the Directive. On that basis the Commission launched a technical and scientific assessment which also involved the consultation of stakeholders. The assessment, which was performed by an external consultant, has been concluded and the relevant report is publicly available³, together with the information on the stakeholder consultation⁴. In light of the technical and scientific evidence provided, the Commission will take a decision in due course.

¹ OJ L 174, 1.7.2011, p. 88-110.

² http://rohs.exemptions.oeko.info/fileadmin/user_upload/RoHS_Pack_9/Exemption_29/29_EDG_LE_RoHS_Exemption_Req_final.pdf.

³ http://rohs.exemptions.oeko.info/fileadmin/user_upload/RoHS_Pack_9/RoHS-Pack_9_Part_ALLOYS-MISC_06-2016.pdf.

⁴ <http://rohs.exemptions.oeko.info/index.php?id=254>.

The Commission would like to recall that under Article 5(5) of the Directive, the existing exemption remains valid until a new decision is taken by the Commission.

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

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Karmenu Vella
Member of the Commission*