



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels,
C(2013) *final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion regarding 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.

This proposal, which addresses the subject of Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC), is currently being examined by the European Parliament and the Council.

The Commission would like to point out that the proposal encourages a greater market penetration of advanced biofuels by giving the use of such fuels a higher value than conventional biofuels in terms of their contribution to the targets of the Renewable Energy Directive through multiple counting.

By limiting the contribution that food crop based biofuels can make to meeting EU and national targets for renewable energy to their current market share of about 5% in the EU, the proposal aims at protecting existing investments until 2020 while reducing the risk of ILUC.

Although the Commission sees the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) report as the best available scientific evidence for assessing emissions from indirect land-use change caused by the use of biofuels in the EU, the Commission also acknowledges that scientific analysis will further evolve. It will thus closely follow these developments and continue assessing the situation. In this context, the Commission has proposed a further review, if appropriate, in 2017.

The Commission hopes that this clarification addresses the concerns raised by the Senato della Repubblica and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Mr Pietro GRASSO
President of the
Senato della Repubblica
Piazza Madama, 1
IT – 00186 ROMA*