



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 10.7.2017  
C(2017) 4575 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Governance of the Energy Union {COM (2016) 759 final}.*

*This proposal was adopted as part of the 'Clean Energy for all Europeans' package with a view to putting in place the necessary framework to achieve the objectives of the Energy Union, notably the 2030 energy and climate targets. Together with the other initiatives in the package, the proposal promotes secure, sustainable, competitive and affordable energy.*

*The Commission welcomes the Senato della Repubblica's conclusion that the proposed approach on Energy Union Governance complies with the principles of proportionality and subsidiarity and respects Member States' rights and prerogatives under Article 194 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.*

*As highlighted by the Senato della Repubblica in its Opinion, the proposal is centred on streamlining, integrating and simplifying existing planning, reporting and monitoring obligations in the energy and climate field, and introduces a robust political process between Member States and EU institutions on the preparation and implementation of integrated national energy and climate plans.*

*This framework will help to ensure the necessary certainty for investors as well as transparency and foresight on national policies and measures, which will stimulate jobs and growth in the energy sector. The initiative will also ensure that the Union and its Member States honour their commitments under the Paris Agreement on climate change.*

*The Commission is grateful for the broad support expressed by the Senato della Repubblica for the aims of the proposal, which provides an unprecedented opportunity to have comparable, comprehensive and integrated national plans, but at the same time ensures that Member States retain significant flexibility to take account of specific national circumstances and preferences.*

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

*The Commission also welcomes the Senato della Repubblica's call for more ambitious but at the same time cost-effective energy and climate policies as drivers for a more sustainable, secure and competitive energy market.*

*The proposals in the package are currently in the legislative process involving both the European Parliament and the Council. The Commission remains hopeful that an agreement will be reached in the near future.*

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

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Miguel Arias Cañete  
Member of the Commission*