



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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*Tomasz GRODZKI  
Marshal of the Senat  
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*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Senat for its Opinion on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Directive 98/70/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the promotion of energy from renewable sources, and repealing Council Directive (EU) 2015/652 (Renewable Energy Directive) {COM(2021) 557 final}.*

*In December 2020, the European Council endorsed an EU target of a net domestic reduction of at least 55% in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990. The European Council concluded that climate ambition needed to be raised in a manner that would spur sustainable economic growth, create quality jobs, deliver health and environmental benefits for citizens of the Union, and contribute to the long-term global competitiveness of the Union's economy by promoting innovation in green technologies. This new ambition has been made binding by the European Climate Law<sup>1</sup> and demonstrates the EU's readiness to lead in the fight against climate change.*

*The Commission welcomes the support expressed by the Senat to the proposal and to the more ambitious targets for energy from renewable sources as an opportunity to accelerate the development of the Polish renewable energy sector. The Commission has also taken note of the call for longer deadlines or a temporary derogation for Poland for the achievement of targets in the heating, cooling and transport sectors to ensure their feasibility.*

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 June 2021 establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulations (EC) No 401/2009 and (EU) 2018/1999 ('European Climate Law'); OJ L 243, 9.7.2021, p. 1–17.

*The Commission is aware of the differences that exist between the EU Member States regarding their geographical, economic and social conditions. As set out in the Governance Regulation 2018/1999<sup>2</sup>, the national contributions for Member State's share of energy from renewable sources take into account, among others, the potential for cost-effective renewable energy deployment, the economic conditions and potential of each Member State, including GDP per capita, or the geographical, environmental and natural constraints. These different starting points have been taken into account when preparing the Impact Assessment for the proposal for a revised Renewable Energy Directive and in particular when proposing targets and benchmarks for renewables overall and in individual sectors.*

*The Commission would like to stress the importance of a vigorous deployment of renewables across all relevant sectors in order to achieve the proposed 2030 target of at least 40% share of energy from renewable sources, necessary to cost-effectively deliver on the EU's climate target of 55% emissions reduction. Achieving this target will require tripling the deployment pace of renewables compared to the previous decade. The sectoral measures proposed play a fundamental role in achieving this objective and in promoting sector integration. They target in particular those sectors which have high potential for renewables deployment but where progress so far has been relatively slow. Moreover, they build to a large extent on the measures of the existing Directive.*

*The heating and cooling sectors account for half of the EU final energy consumption. Renewables' potential in these sectors is high but not yet well harnessed. The proposed measures are designed to address this issue. They take into account the different starting points and potentials of the Member States by combining a minimum average binding increase with indicative top-ups per Member State. It also includes an extended list of measures in Art 23 (4), which may be used to achieve their targets, providing flexibility to choose which approach and measures are best suited for the national circumstances. Such approach will provide predictability for investors across the whole value chain in this sector.*

*Similarly, the measures set out in the proposal for transport are necessary considering that the transport sector currently depends to over 90% on fossil fuels. The Commission notes that renewable fuels are traded across borders. Finally, the ambition for the electrification of road transport in Poland could also contribute to achieve the objectives of the Directive.*

*As a result, the Commission believes that the proposed framework preserves flexibility for Member States while ensuring an integrated framework across various renewable energy carriers and across the EU.*

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<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action, amending Regulations (EC) No 663/2009 and (EC) No 715/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directives 94/22/EC, 98/70/EC, 2009/31/EC, 2009/73/EC, 2010/31/EU, 2012/27/EU and 2013/30/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 2009/119/EC and (EU) 2015/652 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Text with EEA relevance.); OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 1–77.

*The Commission hopes that the clarifications provided in this reply address the issues raised by the Senat and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President*

*Kadri Simson  
Member of the Commission*