



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 14.12.2012  
C(2011) 9688 final

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputatilor for its Opinion on the draft Regulation on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure {COM(2011) 658 final}, and apologizes for the long delay in replying.*

*The Commission agrees that in conjunction with the Connecting Europe Facility, a strong focus on the three key network industries, energy, transport and telecoms, will deliver benefits to the EU economy by stimulating economic growth and employment.*

*The Commission also agrees that there is urgency to identify and implement the necessary energy infrastructures as soon as possible in view of 2020 and the longer term horizon and policy objectives. Therefore, the Commission is pleased to inform you that preparatory work has already started at the regional level to enable swift identification of the projects of common interest by mid-2013. Romanian experts and stakeholders are participating actively in this process.*

*Finally, the Commission shares the view that some flexibility may be needed in cases when streamlining of environmental assessment procedures would require changes to the national legislation. However, the competent authority, the "one-stop-shop", should be established swiftly. The draft regulation provides already flexibility on this by allowing different schemes of coordination. In this context, the Commission would also like to emphasise the urgency and the step change that is required to modernise our ageing energy networks and make them fit for the future. Any delay in the process may put our energy security at risk.*

*The Commission hopes these clarifications address the concerns and observations by the Camera Deputatilor and looks forward to continuing our policy dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President*

*Mr Valeriu Ștefan ZGONEA  
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