

RHC-ETIP, place du champ de Mars 2, 1050 Brussels, Belgium

European Commission  
Commissioner Carlos Moedas  
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200  
B-1049 Brussels

Brussels, 25 October 2016

## **Request of actions to overcome the shortcomings for Renewable Heating & Cooling technologies in H2020 and the SET-Plan**

Dear Commissioner Moedas,

It was an honour for us to take part in the High-level Stakeholder Event on the Energy Union Research, Innovation and Competitiveness Strategy on 26 September 2016 in Brussels.

We were excited about the clear statement of your introductory speech that the energy sector must be fully decarbonized to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. This seems logic, but taken the related challenges into account, it is courageous to campaign for this goal.

Furthermore, we appreciated your answers to our questions raised at the event, confirming that renewable heating and cooling (RHC) is of high importance to achieve the European energy and climate goals.

Against this background, we want to raise your awareness on the fact that the current European policy framework for energy research still hampers the renewable heating and cooling (RHC) sector to unlock its technological and market potential. If this situation is sustained, the RHC sector will not be able to deliver its contribution needed to achieve the European energy and climate goals.

Therefore, **we would like to ask for your support in ensuring that specific actions are implemented to overcome the discrimination of RHC technologies and create a level playing field with other energy technologies.**

With the Energy Union and the Heating and Cooling Strategy, the Commission made clear that European energy policy is not any longer focused on electricity only, and that RHC technologies are

as important as renewable electricity technologies. Within the SET-Plan, the Commission and the Member States have identified the need to integrate heating & cooling technologies.

However, up to now, RHC technologies are neither represented equally in the relevant documents of the SET-Plan nor sufficiently funded in the Horizon 2020 programme. Therefore, we ask you to support actions to:

1. Provide separate budget lines in the Horizon 2020 LCE calls 2018-2020 for RHC technologies and for Renewable Electricity technologies.
2. Develop and publish Issue Papers on RHC technologies in the framework of the SET-Plan and publish separate Priorities for RHC technologies within Actions 1&2 and, consequently, work on related Declarations of Intent with the RHC stakeholders.

After having the heating & cooling sector brought successfully on the political agenda, these actions are necessary to enable the RHC sector to be actively engaged and to contribute to the European energy policy as needed to achieve the energy and climate goals.

Please find attached a background paper explaining our position in detail.

We thank you very much in advance for any support and looking forward to your response. For discussions, we remain available.

With kind regards



Gerhard Stryi-Hipp  
*President RHC*



Rainer Janssen  
*Chair Biomass Panel*



Bernd Hafner  
*Chair Solar Thermal Panel*



Javier Urchueguía  
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Dave Pearson  
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