

Ms Joke Schauvliege  
President of the EU Environment Council  
Flemish Minister for Environment, Nature and  
Culture  
Koolstraat 35 box 5  
1000 Brussel

11 October 2010

Dear President,

At the Environment Council meeting on 14 October you will revert to the issues covered by the European Commission's Communication "Analysis of options to move beyond 20% greenhouse gas emission reductions and assessing the risk of carbon leakage".

I would like to reiterate BUSINESSEUROPE's commitment to transforming Europe's energy system in order to achieve a low-carbon, secure and competitive economy. We fully support the EU's current climate and energy targets for 2020 and the objective of halving global emissions by 2050 compared with 1990 levels.

European companies have impressive track records for reducing their greenhouse gas emissions and for enabling emission reductions across society. They clearly have a central role to play in meeting our climate and energy objectives. However, they must be supported by a *clear and predictable* policy framework; *economically and technically feasible targets*; and *comparable emission reduction efforts* by our main trading partners.

BUSINESSEUROPE continues to be convinced that at this point in time, i.e. in the absence of an international deal securing equally strong action from other economies, any increase of the EU's 20% emission reduction target would be premature and even counterproductive. I hope this will be reflected by the conclusions you draw on Thursday.

Moreover, we call on the EU to come up with a predictable and fully integrated policy approach on climate, energy, industry and innovation. Please find attached our position paper setting out the key principles which should drive this approach, as well as concrete policy recommendations.

I would be very happy to meet you in the near future to discuss our views in more detail.

Yours sincerely,

Philippe de Buck

