

Jean-Claude Juncker

President of the European Commission

Brussels, 8 December 2014

### **Energy savings test to facilitate investments for jobs and growth**

Dear President Juncker,

I write to you on behalf of the Coalition for Energy Savings, following our meeting with Vice-President, Jyrki Katainen. Our Coalition unites 28 European business, civil society, professional, trade union and local government organisations in order to make energy efficiency a top priority for EU economic, energy and climate policies and to tap the huge cost-effective energy savings potentials across all sectors, which stands at 40% by 2030.

We welcome your focus on stimulating investment for the purpose of job creation and growth and your support for reaching energy efficiency improvements throughout the EU economy. These should go hand-in-hand.

To ensure this, we believe that a '*savings test*' should be introduced when considering how to prioritise projects included in the Jobs, Growth and Investment Package, as well as, determining the pillars of the Energy Union, and thus in the Internal Energy Market.

This principle would ensure that before deciding whether to invest in new energy generation, transmission or distribution infrastructure, or renegotiate supply contracts, consideration would be given to whether investing in Europe's energy efficiency infrastructure is more cost-effective.

These investments, in energy efficiency across the supply chain such as in high performance buildings and appliances, more energy efficient industrial equipment, processes, and transport infrastructure, are proven to deliver jobs, growth, competitiveness and climate protection, and can facilitate a substantial EU investment package as the Commission has set out in its latest communication. Energy efficiency projects are in demand, most national efficiency funds are notoriously oversubscribed; quick to deploy; and effective in leveraging private finance, €1 of public financing can leverage up to €15 in some national efficiency programmes and measures.

The Investment Package is an opportunity to kick-start increased investment in energy by creating a much more favourable environment for energy efficiency projects. This means increasing the financial provision for technical assistance, providing access to low cost loans for long-term investments and making regulatory changes to overcome market barriers.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with you. The next few years will be an important time for Europe and energy efficiency and we look forward to working with you and your team.

Yours sincerely,



Paolo Falcioni, Chair of the Coalition for Energy Savings

cc. Vice-President Katainen

Annex:

Coalition for Energy Saving Position Paper – Saving energy for a secure Energy Union

Coalition for Energy Savings Briefing - Tapping the EU's huge energy efficiency potential - The premier investment focus for sustainable jobs and growth.