

To : Chair, Vice-Chairs and Coordinators of the Industry, Research & Energy committee

Brussels, 23 April 2021

Subject: **Setting energy efficiency as a driving force towards the decarbonisation of Europe's energy system.**

Dear ITRE Chair,

Decarbonising Europe's energy system is of crucial importance, given that about [80% of Europe's](#) greenhouse gas emissions are energy related. Ahead of the release of the Fit for 55 package, the public hearing organized on this topic by the ITRE committee last 13 April was timely and highly relevant.

However, as the Coalition for Energy Savings, we were alarmed to see that the central role of energy efficiency to decarbonise Europe's energy system was hardly acknowledged during the hearing. In its [Resolution](#) on the European Green Deal, the European Parliament rightly recommended to "Implement the 'energy efficiency first' principle in all sectors and policies, which is fundamental to reducing the EU's energy dependency and emissions from energy production, while also providing local jobs in renovations and reducing citizens' energy bills." We are therefore concerned that energy efficiency was overlooked in the hearing as a fundamental tool to achieve Europe's decarbonisation objectives, also given its important contribution to economic recovery and citizens' improved living conditions.

Considering the existing gaps towards the [2020](#) and [2030](#) EU energy efficiency targets, there is an urgent need to accelerate action and reduce energy consumption across all sectors of the EU economy. With the upcoming revision of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED), key component of the Fit for 55 package, **we believe that the ITRE committee shall champion a step change in the delivery of energy efficiency policy in the European Union**, moving from high-level commitments to real support for measures on the ground.

In the next months, your political support for energy efficiency will be paramount. A failure to strengthen the EED and the integration of the Energy Efficiency first principle in the Fit for 55 package as a whole, will not just be a missed opportunity for energy efficiency, but would jeopardize the achievement of the EU climate neutrality objective in a way that is fast, fair and attractive for both citizens and the economy.

We hope you will take those considerations into account; the Coalition for Energy Savings is looking forward to engaging with you in the legislative process to revise the EED.

Yours sincerely,



Arianna Vitali Roscini

Secretary General of the Coalition for Energy Savings

The **Coalition for Energy Savings** strives to make energy efficiency and savings the first consideration of energy policies and the driving force towards a secure, sustainable and competitive European Union. Its membership unites businesses, local authorities, cooperatives and civil society organisations in pursuit of this goal.

[Coalition members](#) represent:

- more than 500 associations, 200 companies, 1,500 cooperatives
- 15 million supporters and 1 million citizens as members of cooperatives
- 2,500 cities and towns in 30 countries in Europe

Members of the Coalition: **APPLiA** - Home Appliance Europe | **BPIE** - Buildings Performance Institute Europe (advisory member) | **CAN Europe** - Climate Action Network Europe | **CEE Bankwatch Network** | **ClientEarth** | **Climate Alliance** | **E.V.V.E.** - European Association for the Consumption-based Billing of Energy Costs | **E3G** | **eccee** - European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy | **ECOS** - Environmental Coalition on Standards | **EEB** - European Environmental Bureau | **EFIEES** - European Federation of Intelligent Energy Efficiency Services | **ehi** - Association of the European Heating Industry | **Energy Cities** | **EPEE** - European Partnership for Energy and the Environment | **eurima** - European Insulation Manufacturers Association | **EuroACE** - The European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings | **EU-ASE** - European Alliance to Save Energy | **ECF** - European Climate Foundation | **ECI** - European Copper Institute - Copper Alliance | **FEDARENE** - The European Federation of Agencies and Regions for Energy and the Environment | **Friends of the Earth Europe** | **Housing Europe** | **PU Europe** - European Association of Polyurethane Insulation Manufacturers | **RAP** - The Regulatory Assistance Project (advisory member) | **REScoop.eu** | **T&E** - Transport & Environment | **WWF** European Policy Office