



Jean-Claude Juncker

European Commission

200, Rue de la Loi

B-1049 Brussels, Belgium

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016

**Subject: Energy efficiency target for 2030**

Dear President,  
CC Energy Union project team

Two years ago, to provide a lasting solution to the European Union's energy import dependency and to create a more competitive and sustainable energy system, you called for a binding energy efficiency target of at least 30% by 2030. And well before the Paris Agreement removed all doubts on the need to put energy efficiency first, you asserted that the EU cannot be the leader on climate change if it does not become more energy efficient.

We understand that the Commission, as part of its commitment to complete climate and energy legislation post Paris, is preparing to revise the level of ambition of the 2030 efficiency target. We also understand that your services are examining a variety of options for a revised target, ranging from the current target of 27% to the European Parliament's preferred goal of 40%. We look forward to receiving the results of this assessment, yet in our view it is already clear that the higher the target, the better the results for living standards, the economy, energy security and the environment - the better the outcome for Europeans.

Energy efficiency can be the glue of social cohesion and European integration – the key to a better life for hundreds of thousands, millions of families and help to restore the trust in the European project. As many as 80 million people live in damp and leaky homes. Renovating buildings – where Europeans spend 90% of their time – to take indoor environment into account can vastly improve air quality, general comfort and health.

Nobody should have to choose between heating, cooling and eating. Yet 10% of Europeans are forced to make that choice on a daily basis. Proposing a meaningful level of ambition in the revision of the 2030 efficiency target can help resolve this crisis, demonstrate the EU's *raison d'être* and at the same time measurably boost employment and competitiveness. For every 1% improvement in energy efficiency, 3 million more homes can be properly renovated and 7 million people lifted out of energy poverty.



By your personal declarations and commitments and by major policy proposals such as the Juncker plan, you have consistently supported a strong position on energy efficiency. We are counting on you to follow through and commit to increasing the 2030 efficiency target in the Commission's proposal this autumn. By doing so you will be providing the unifying, forward-looking initiative that the EU so clearly needs.

Yours sincerely,

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