



EUROPEAN ALLIANCE TO  
**SAVE ENERGY**  
Creating an Energy-Efficient Europe

To the kind attention of **Jean-Claude Juncker**  
President of the European Commission

**Frans Timmermans**  
First Vice-President of the European Commission

**Monica Frassoni**

President of the European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE)  
Square de Meeus, 22 A  
1050 Brussels (Belgium)

Brussels, 14 September 2016

Dear President Juncker,  
Dear First Vice-President Timmermans,

**Re: Only a strengthening of both EED and EPBD at the same time will set the right EU regulatory framework**

On behalf of the European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE), we are writing to express our full support for the ongoing work of the European Commission on the revision of *both* the EED *and* EPBD.

An improved revision of both EED and EPBD would: i) enable citizens and businesses to control energy expenses; ii) reduce gas import dependency; iii) facilitate innovation and competitiveness of EU enterprises; iv) support economic recovery, jobs and growth; v) reduce EU greenhouse emissions in a cost-effective way.

There is no time to waste, now is the right time to present a proposal for a revised EPBD and EED in support of the Energy Union. Only a strengthening of both Directives at the same time will set the right regulatory framework. There is a huge untapped savings potential to be ripped, we cannot afford not to act.

The political prioritization of energy efficiency through a binding EU energy efficiency target at 40% is of utmost importance. We understand that no preferred option was identified by the Impact Assessment regarding the level of the energy savings target and its nature: this means that the final decision on its ambition will be only political, but the message that will derive from this choice will have a direct impact on EU society, business community at large and the financial sector.

An ambitious target must be also accompanied by supporting policies and measures set at EU level, notably to address the untapped potential in the buildings sector. This is why we urge the Commission to revise together both the EED and EPBD.

EU legislation targeting the buildings sector has proven to have an impact: there is evidence of around 48.9Mtoe additional final energy savings in 2014 compared to the 2007 baseline of the EPBD. These

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savings occurred mainly within the scope of the EPBD and a significant part can be attributed to factors influenced by policy interventions.

European businesses call for setting more ambitious minimum requirements in the buildings sector through a collective EU approach.

A strengthening of the EPBD would be beneficial for several reasons:

- addressing building energy performance at EU level will boost the creation of an internal market for energy efficiency. In 2016 the Commission carried out a fitness check on the construction industry in the policy areas of internal market and energy efficiency which found that, overall, EU energy efficiency legislation has had a positive effect on the construction sector, leading to increased business opportunities linked to energy efficient renovation of buildings. Additional energy related activity for the construction sector across the EU is estimated at approximately €47.6bn. Also SMEs, for example small construction firms, benefit from these business opportunities.
- the finance sector needs more comparability of energy performance measurements across the EU. Financial institutions have clearly indicated that work is needed at both national/local and EU levels to increase public and private investments' effectiveness and to contribute to the development of attractive financing products on the market. The majority of the estimated additional activity would result from investment decisions by individuals based on better information regarding energy performance of buildings. €1bn to €4bn investments would be injected in the economy by strengthened measures.
- It can lead to the reduction of the administrative burden of the EPBD by €98.1 million per year while creating approximately 23 jobs for every 1.2 million euro spent on energy efficiency.

In summary, it is our strong belief that the “Efficiency First” concept should occupy a leadership position in the operation of the Energy Union: the revision of both EED and EPBD is the opportunity to grasp. And we stand ready to offer our support and counsel in this wise and ambitious venture.

Yours sincerely,



**Monica Frassoni**  
President  
European Alliance to Save Energy



**Harry Verhaar**  
Global Head of Public and Government Affairs  
Philips Lighting

## About the European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE)

EU-ASE was established in December 2010 by some of Europe's leading multinational companies. The Alliance creates a platform from which our companies (1E, Danfoss, Ingersoll Rand, Kingspan, Knauf Insulation, Opower, Philips, Schneider Electric, Siemens and Veolia) can join with politicians and thought leaders to ensure the voice of energy efficiency is heard from across the business and political community.

EU-ASE members have operations across the 28 Member States of the European Union, employ over 210.000 people in Europe and have an aggregated annual turnover of €90 billion.

### Members



### Honorary Members

#### **Bendt Bendtsen**

Member of the European Parliament  
(Denmark, EPP)

#### **Bas Eickhout**

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