

Open letter to European Council President Herman Van Rompuy

Dear President of the European Council Mr Van Rompuy,

Representatives from leading industries providing energy efficient products to the European market would like to voice their growing concern regarding Europe's current energy efficiency and savings policy.

As things stand, Europe is almost certain to miss its 2020 energy efficiency target; recent evidence suggests we will only make it half the distance.

This state of affairs is worrying. At this stage, the most cost effective element of the 20/20/20 targets could turn out to be the one that will not actually be achieved.

We feel that Europe's energy efficiency policy needs strengthening. Our industries are looking to Europe's political leaders for strong commitment and action in this field: making the 20% energy savings target a real policy commitment should, in our view, be a top priority.

As a group of industries active in Europe in the energy efficiency sector, we would ask you to consider, as a matter of some urgency, the need to ensure the right regulatory and policy environment to foster energy efficiency. We are ready to assist when it comes to delivering energy savings for Europe. The technology exists; the energy efficiency goal is achievable.

Ahead of the 4 February EU Energy Summit, we ask the Council to appreciate that non-deliverance on the 20% energy savings target means missing a crucial opportunity. A binding commitment to deliver the 20% energy savings target would position the EU as the world leader in the shift to a sustainable, resource-efficient economy.

Whilst energy efficiency is about many small steps that help us climb mountains, it is important to stress that this mountain is definitely worth climbing. Achieving the 20% energy efficiency target would save the equivalent of 15 Nabucco pipelines (and related costs). It would thus secure our energy supply. At the same time, adopting this target creates the potential for one million jobs in Europe by 2020. It would also help protect Europe's citizens from expected increases in energy prices. In short, the policy helps secure the short and long-term sustainability of Europe's economy.

As the President of the European Council, you have an unprecedented opportunity to ensure that heads of state are convinced of the need for more ambition on energy efficiency. Such ambition will help create an energy and climate-secure Europe.

Yours sincerely,

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 <p>Bosch und Siemens Hausgeräte Kurt-Ludwig Gutberlet CEO</p>	 <p>Candy Hoover Group Silvano Fumagalli Chairman of the Board</p>	 <p>Carrier Europe, Middle East, Africa Philippe Delpech President</p>	 <p>Centrax Richard Barr CEO</p>	 <p>Daikin Europe Frans Hoorelbeke Chairman</p>	 <p>De'Longhi Fabio De'Longhi CEO</p>
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