



To the
Executive First Vice-President Frans Timmermans
Energy Commissioner Kadri Simson
Industry Commissioner Thierry Breton
Rue de la Loi 200
BE-1049 Brussels

Brussels, May 2020

Subject: Hydrogen Europe CEOs ready to support Clean Hydrogen Alliance

Dear Executive First Vice-President Timmermans,
Dear Commissioner Simson,
Dear Commissioner Breton,

We are writing to you as members of Hydrogen Europe, the European hydrogen and fuel cell association. With 160+ industry members, a big part of the European hydrogen industry is coming together to support the idea of a Clean Hydrogen Alliance. Our companies have different sizes and do represent the entire hydrogen value chain, from production to transport, distribution and final end-use of hydrogen. Through concrete and dedicated action, and with your support, we will deliver considerable climate action already by 2030 and contribute to Europe's green recovery plan through the use of hydrogen and hydrogen technologies.

Recently, while presenting the Recovery Instrument in front of the European Parliament, President von der Leyen mentioned hydrogen as one of the key technologies that should help kick start the European economy post Covid-19.

Indeed, the European industry is engaged in a common vision to promote hydrogen as an enabler of a zero-emission society. As a clean energy vector, a fuel and a feedstock, clean hydrogen has the potential to accelerate the decarbonisation of our energy system and of our industrial production pathways. We would like to re-emphasise the potential of hydrogen technologies to recover the post-corona economy and, at the same time, to achieve climate neutrality by 2050.

We are ready to invest massively into the use of hydrogen! With a technological maturity that enables immediate commercial deployments in many fields, we are at a turning point and we are ready to deliver on massive emission reductions, contributing already to 2030 EU climate and energy targets. Our industry is ready for an ambitious scale up as shown in our 2x40 GW Green Hydrogen Initiative paper, where the 2x40 GW electrolyser capacity to enable the large-scale production of renewable hydrogen by 2030 is explained in detail¹.

We strongly believe that the deployment of clean hydrogen can massively contribute to the European Green Deal. In order to become the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050, Europe needs indeed carbon free power, increased energy efficiency and deep decarbonisation of industry, transport and buildings. These solutions depend on large scale hydrogen applications. Looking at investments and government activities taking place in Asia and especially in China, this matter also has strategic implications for our European industrial competitiveness.

The Covid-19 crisis is extremely critical for the European economy and may severely undermine its long-term sustainable growth capacities. The hydrogen value chain is also affected by that

¹https://hydrogeneurope.eu/sites/default/files/Hydrogen%20Europe_2x40%20GW%20Green%20H2%20Initiative%20Paper.pdf

development. However, returning to the status quo and business as usual is not the way forward. We welcome and fully support the European Commission's commitments to pursue its climate goals, the EU Green Deal and to implement the recovery package accordingly.

It is a crucial moment for Europe and for the hydrogen industry. We fully understand that the existing historical momentum reinforces the need for an instrument to steer the political process and bring the industry together with all relevant stakeholders. We strongly believe that a Clean Hydrogen Alliance would be an ideal institutional approach to manage this process and we are ready to commit and offer our contribution and active participation.

We are ready to cooperate with you on the Clean Hydrogen Alliance and we are committed to delivering on the climate agenda!

Yours Faithfully,

Joaquín Fernández de
Piérola Marín
CEO

ABENGOA

Guy Salzgeber
Executive Vice President

Air Liquide

Guillaume Faury
CEO

AIRBUS

Henri Poupart-Lafarge
Chairman and CEO

ALSTOM

Mark Cutifani
Chief Executive

AngloAmerican

Pascal Pewinski
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AREVA H₂Gen

Jean-Michel Amaré
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