



**Brussels, 22 April 2010**

**An Open Letter to:**

**European Commission President, Mr. José-Manuel Barroso  
European Commissioner for Energy, Mr. Günther H. Oettinger**

Our group, representing a unique and wide cross-section of businesses, professional organisations and NGOs, writes to you to urge that financial assistance intended to support energy projects is directed towards energy efficiency.

It has been brought to our attention that at least €115m of the 'Community financial assistance to projects in the field of energy' (COM(2009)35), adopted in support of the European Economic Recovery Plan early 2009, might remain unused. We call on the European Commission to use these funds to support the more aggressive use of existing technologies to achieve greater energy efficiency across the EU Member States.

Significant energy savings will be required if the EU is to meet its challenging 20/20/20<sup>i</sup> and climate policy targets. According to recent analyses from Ecofys and the Fraunhofer Institute<sup>ii</sup>, achieving 20% energy savings by 2020 would result in net savings of €107 billion per year by 2020, meaning over €600 per household. This would also reduce Europe's dependency on energy imports by 20% and provide a unique opportunity to create at least one million new jobs.

As a unique grouping from across civil society, business and policy, the undersigned strongly recommend that the European Commission allocates these unspent funds to support the diffusion of energy efficiency under a financial framework set up by the European Investment Bank. A number of mechanisms have already been identified by the energy efficiency sector and the Commission, starting with the Green paper on Energy Efficiency in 2005. These financial schemes could play a critical role in triggering investments in energy efficiency whilst being an effective way to ensure that European taxpayers' money is wisely spent.

We trust the European Commission will make energy efficiency one of its "first-order" priorities in the EU's economic recovery effort and that this will be demonstrated by the allocation of the intended funding to energy efficiency projects as indicated.

We thank you for your attention and look forward to hearing from you and to remaining in close contact and collaboration from now onwards.

Yours sincerely,

**Adrian Joyce**  
Director  
ACE

**James Thornton**  
CEO  
Client Earth

**Tudor Constantinescu**  
Executive Director  
BPIE

**Fiona Riddoch**  
Managing Director  
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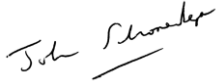
**Luigi Meli**  
Director General  
CECED

**Nils Borg**  
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**Oliver Loebel**  
Secretary General  
PU-Europe



**Louis Armstrong**  
CEO  
RICS



**Steve Howard**  
CEO  
The Climate Group



**Note: 'This letter may be posted on the websites of the signatories'**

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<sup>i</sup> In March 2007, the EU Heads of State and Government set a series of demanding climate and energy targets to be met by 2020. These are: a reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions of at least 20% below 1990 levels, 20% of EU energy consumption to come from renewable resources and a 20% reduction in primary energy use compared with projected levels.

<sup>ii</sup> The final version of the Ecofys and the Fraunhofer Institute research, focused on the feasibility of a 20% energy saving target and commissioned by the European Climate Foundation (ECF) and the Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP), will be issued in early May.

## ABOUT US

- **ACE (Architects' Council of Europe)** is an organisation that represents the interests of about 480.000 Architects in Europe through its Member organisations, which are the professional representative and regulatory bodies of all EU Member States, most of the Accession States, Switzerland and Norway. Website: [www.ace-cae.eu](http://www.ace-cae.eu)
- **BPIE (Building Performance Institute Europe)** acts both as a centre of expertise on all aspects of energy efficiency and energy performance in European buildings and as the European centre for a global Best Practice Network on energy efficiency in buildings. Website: [www.bpie.eu](http://www.bpie.eu)
- **CECED (European Committee of Domestic Equipment Manufacturers)** promotes the industry's mission to increase the performance while reducing the environmental impact of the appliances. Website: [www.ceced.org](http://www.ceced.org)
- **CECODHAS (The European Liaison Committee for Social Housing)** is the European Committee for social and cooperatives housing, a network of national and regional social housing federations. Website: [www.cecodhas.org](http://www.cecodhas.org)
- **ClientEarth** is an organisation of activist lawyers committed to securing a healthy planet and bringing together law, science and policy to create pragmatic solutions to key environmental challenges. Website: [www.clientearth.org](http://www.clientearth.org)
- **COGEN Europe** is the European association for the promotion of cogeneration. It represents the interests of the cogeneration industry, users of the technology and promoting its benefits in the EU and the wider Europe. Website: [www.cogeneurope.eu](http://www.cogeneurope.eu)
- **ECEEE (European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy)** is a non-profit, membership-based European NGO. The goal of ECEEE is to stimulate energy efficiency through information exchange and co-operation. Website: [www.eceee.org](http://www.eceee.org)
- **ECF (European Climate Foundation)** is a philanthropic organization that aims to promote climate and energy policies that reduce Europe's greenhouse gas emissions and help Europe play an even stronger international leadership role in mitigating climate change. Website: [www.europeandclimate.org](http://www.europeandclimate.org)
- **European Copper Institute** is a non profit organisation representing the world's mining companies and the European copper industry. It aims to raise public awareness of copper's value to society and to the environment. Website: [www.eurocopper.org](http://www.eurocopper.org)
- **EuroACE (The European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings)** represents Europe's leading companies involved with the manufacture, distribution and installation of energy savings goods and services for buildings. Its mission is to help Europe move towards a more sustainable pattern of energy use in buildings. Website: [www.euroace.org](http://www.euroace.org)
- **Eurima (European Insulation Manufacturers Association)** represents the interests of all major mineral wool producers throughout Europe. Its mission is to create a favourable business environment for mineral wool insulation, by promoting the common interests of this industry and working for positive regulations and standards. Website: <http://www.eurima.org>
- **Glass for Europe** is the trade association for Europe's manufacturers of flat glass. It aims to enhance broader understanding among policy-makers of what flat glass is and to underline the critical and unique role its products play in reducing energy consumption. Website: [www.glassforeurope.com](http://www.glassforeurope.com)
- **PU-Europe** is the European association representing the polyurethane insulation industry. Polyurethane insulation helps to save energy in a wide variety of applications in buildings, district heating, cooling and refrigeration, and industrial systems. Website: [www.pu-europe.eu](http://www.pu-europe.eu)
- **RICS (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors)** is the largest organisation for professionals in the field of property, land, construction and related environmental issues worldwide, providing independent and impartial advice to governments and global organisations. Website: [www.rics.org/eu](http://www.rics.org/eu)
- **The Climate Group** is an independent, not-for-profit organisation, working internationally with government and business leaders to advance smart policies and technologies to cut global emissions and accelerate a low carbon economy. Website: [www.theclimategroup.org](http://www.theclimategroup.org)