



Ms. Ursula von der Leyen
President
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
B-1049 Brussels

CC
Kadri Simson, Commissioner for Energy
Thierry Breton, Commissioner for the Internal Market

Brussels, 27 November 2023

Dear Commission President von der Leyen,

In the [2023 State of the Union address](#), you announced holding a series of Clean Transition Dialogues with the industry, to be able to support every sector in building its business model for the decarbonisation of industry.

The leading electricity grid technology providers, T&D Europe, Europacable and currENT, strongly welcome the political support to set dialogues with Europe's clean tech industry. Together we provide the hardware (transformers, cables, switchgears), software and digital solutions for the grid. We call on you to schedule a Clean Transition Dialogue for the electricity grid sector to prioritise the actions, support mechanisms and policies needed to ensure a successful and timely energy transition. The [conclusions](#) of the High-Level Electricity Grids Forum held in September this year provide a good starting point for concrete measures that will make a difference.

Doing so would allow Europe to continue to benefit from the critical role of the electricity grids in delivering the EU Green Deal and energy security, by securing concrete commitments from electricity stakeholders to enable the necessary investments and reduce grid bottlenecks. As [highlighted](#) by Energy Commissioner Simson, the European electricity network is a key enabler for Europe's clean energy transition. Today however networks and grid infrastructure are facing a number of challenges which hampers the move towards a future-proof, flexible and resilient electricity network, while being supported by a strong, innovative, and globally competitive industrial base.

These challenges are wide and have a direct impact on the Union's climate ambitions to adapt to a more decentralised system and integrate a great share of intermittent renewable energy, with the millions of solar panels, heat pumps, and electric vehicles, and electrolyzers producing green hydrogen. A growing share of electricity will be produced where the wind blows and the sun shines, and this electricity will be transmitted by a strong grid to consumers.

The good news is that much of the necessary grid technology is already available. Moreover, Europe can approach the current challenges with confidence. Europe has probably the best and at the same time most intricate electricity system in the world, managed by very experienced transmission and distribution system operators.

At the same time Europe is also home to a strong clean energy eco-system that can deliver on Europe's needs. For transmission and distribution of electricity, Europe is home to a world-leading grid technology sector, providing conventional, digital, and innovative solutions for a future-proof electricity network that is more and more decentralised and more and more digital. The strength of the sector lies in the combination of large, multinational corporations and a large variety of specialised SMEs. Together they form a strong industrial base in Europe, which needs to be preserved and strengthened. This is why a Clean Transition Dialogue is so important.

The Commission's recent recognition of the strategic importance of grids now needs to be translated into real measures to drive progress in the highly regulated grid sector. In the context of the Net-Zero Industry Act, the High-Level Grid Electricity Grids Forum and the upcoming Grid Action Plan, a Clean Transition Dialogue on grids in the near future will be able to give a strong positive impetus to the development of a future-proof electricity network before the end of the current Commission mandate.

In our view the issues that need to be on the agenda of the Clean Transition Dialogue include common solutions related to investment and a fair level-playing field, digitalisation, competitive supply of critical raw materials, R&I, skills, and an effective and coherent implementation of legislation across Member States in the context of the regulated business for operators.

Grid technologies and Europe's grid are critical and strategic net-zero technologies as identified in the Net-Zero Industry Act and should be placed at the heart of the debate. We call the Commission to help set the direction of travel, so the grid technology providers can do what they know best – bringing ground-breaking innovation to businesses and consumers across Europe.

We thank you for your consideration to this critical milestone and we would be ready to have the opportunity to present our main asks at a meeting with you or your team at your earliest convenience.

For more information, please contact:

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CurrENT is the key industry association representing innovative grid technology companies operating in Europe. Our members are taking Europe's power network to the next level – developing and supplying innovative technologies that optimise and maximise use of the existing electricity grid. These next-generation solutions advance the transition toward a decentralised, distributed and active power network: the future for Europe's electricity industry. <https://currenteurope.eu/>



T&D Europe is the European association of the electricity transmission and distribution equipment and services industry. Our scope includes the complete range of products and services necessary to transmit and distribute electricity in high and medium voltages, between the producers and the end users. T&D Europe members provide all types of smart grid technologies, including advanced, smart systems suitable for interaction with renewable energies and ICT. <https://www.tdeurope.eu/>



Europacable is the voice of Europe's leading wire and cable producers. High-quality, sustainable power and telecommunication cables, produced by our members in Europe, empower electrification and digitalization of our societies. Founded in 1991, Europacable represents the largest cable makers in the world providing global technology leadership, as well as highly specialized small and medium sized businesses from across Europe. <https://europacable.eu/>