



Joint Statement on the Green Deal Industrial Plan: Net-Zero will not be achieved without electricity grids & infrastructure

In the further development of the [Green Deal Industrial Plan](#) the European Commission and EU Member States need to ensure a dedicated, long-term focus on Europe's electricity networks. Without a clear understanding and recognition of this critical infrastructure Europe will not be able to achieve its Green Deal ambitions.

E.DSO, Europacable and T&D Europe welcome the political support to strengthen the competitiveness of Europe's net-zero industry. Europe's network operators and the eco-system providing the technology for the electrical grid are concerned that the proposed industrial plan does not recognize **the vital role of the electricity grids and infrastructure** for achieving the Green Deal objectives.

Securing energy supply, achieving climate neutrality, and guaranteeing competitiveness and economic efficiency will not be achieved without **the necessary investments in Europe's electricity network**, from transmission to distribution and micro grids.

Electricity networks are the **backbone of Europe's energy system and facilitator of the energy transition**. By 2050, more than 80% of electricity will come from renewable energy sourcesⁱ and integrating a higher share of renewables will require a **reliable, flexible and smart power system** to continue to ensure a reliable energy supply. Developing this system will require the manufacturing of the necessary hardware and the development of specific software.

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 is capable to 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.

To provide the necessary support we call on the Commission and Member States to create a **European Electricity Alliance**, aimed at providing more attention and support to the European electricity networks and the industry that supports it.

Developing a long-term outlook on strengthening EU manufacturing capacities for the clean energy transition, including on innovation and investment, can only be successful if the wider electricity grids stakeholders are actively involved and can exchange & provide timely solutions to reaching net zero.

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European Distribution System Operators (E.DSO) promotes and enables customers empowerment and the increase in the use of clean energy sources through electrification, the development of smart and digital grid technologies in real-life situations, new market designs and regulation. E.DSO gathers 39 leading electricity distribution system operators (DSOs) in 24 countries, including 2 national associations. <https://www.edsoforsmartgrids.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/>

¹ https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/climate-strategies-targets/2050-long-term-strategy_en