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Ref: 13-03

Kortenberg, 1 July 2013.

Comments of the AIE on the Green Paper A 2030 framework for climate and energy policies

The AIE – the European Association of electrical contracting companies - represents through its 20 national member associations about 175,000 specialist contracting companies employing about 1,000,000 workers in the EU-countries and beyond.

The AIE represents companies from all sizes, the big majors and a majority of small and medium size enterprises.

AIE member companies have an in-depth knowledge and high-quality expert skills to carry out all kind of electrical engineering and infrastructure works (high, medium and low voltage).

The overall turnover of the sector is approximately 75 billion Euros.

The AIE acknowledges the publication of the Green Paper 'A 2030 framework for climate and energy policies' drawing a very good picture of the current state of play of the EU energy policy, on what has been done and/or achieved so far.

The AIE will however focus on one aspect only but of utmost importance for our sector, that gathers all sizes and kind of electrical contracting companies. Indeed in the electrical and electrotechnical sector, energy efficiency is clearly a driver for installation companies creating a market of business opportunities and growth for thousands of companies!

We believe the European Commission is on the right track and should keep its level of ambition! Europe needs an ambitious policy in the field of energy efficiency and simultaneously to develop its capacity of innovation in the field of energy storage, smart grids...

Therefore in our view the most important target is the energy efficiency target that the European Commission has to preserve as a binding target as this will be THE driver for innovation, growth and sustainable development.

In this area, we would like to refer to and make the link with another important document of the European Commission **'The Communication on Energy Technologies and Innovation'**. As part of the key measures proposed in this Communication is the proposal to develop an *Integrated Roadmap*.

The **objective** of the Integrated Roadmap is to prioritise the development of innovative solutions which will respond to the needs of the European energy system by 2020, 2030 and beyond.

The key principle is the need to integrate technology and innovation action with the energy policy.

Part I of the *Integrated Roadmap* will be dedicated to '*Energy efficiency*' encompassing energy efficiency in buildings, appliances, industrial sectors and in the energy system as a whole. It will cover the impact of energy efficiency measures on the needs for heating and cooling. This will create a market and business for thousands of companies in Europe!

We strongly believe that Europe can do it and must believe in its own future and objectives!

The AIE warmly thanks you for your attention and remains at your entire disposal for any further information you might wish.

Have a nice summer!

June 2013.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Schellekens', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Evelyne Schellekens,
General Secretary.