



# EUROPEAN GEOTHERMAL ENERGY COUNCIL

EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
Rue de la Loi 200,  
1049 Brussels  
For the attention of Mr Juncker  
Brussels, 21 November 2014

Subject: €300 billion investment package

Dear President Jean Claude Juncker,

The geothermal industry sincerely welcomes your initiative to launch an Investment package of €300 billion in order to re-launch growth, to create jobs and regain the confidence of European citizens.

The renewable energy sector is one the few sectors creating jobs in Europe today. In the European Union (EU), there were more than 1.2 million renewable energy jobs in 2012 (showing an average growth 2.7% each year). The European Commission estimates 20 million jobs could be created between now and 2020 in the green economy.

The current energy security crisis is really a heat crisis. Just 25% of natural gas is used in power plants whereas 41% is being used for the heating of buildings and 31% for industrial processes. Better and more efficient options are available! Renewable heating technologies, in combination with energy efficiency measures, can provide more stable and affordable options to households and industry.

Around half of the EU's primary energy consumption is spent on heating, and RES heating technologies such as geothermal provide competitive solutions to decarbonise our economy.

We call on the European Commission to answer these challenges by earmarking a substantial part of its investment package for deploying RES heating, which represents only 15% of the heat consumption in 2014. A significant number of projects are ready to be realised in the next 2-3 years.

However, some innovative financing solutions should be provided as:

- These technologies are capital intensive but with very low operational costs, advance payments are required to allow their development;
- Some phases of project development could involve a risk (e.g. drilling), repayable grants may help to mitigate this risk.

Investment in the energy sector should go in priority to:

- Building renovation with energy efficiency measures and fuel switch to renewable heating.
- District heating and cogeneration generation units and distribution networks, including for their refurbishment with RES integration;
- Low temperature process heat from RES to decarbonise the industrial sector.

We hope these views will prove useful to you. We remain at your disposal should you need further information.

Sincerely yours,

Philippe DUMAS – EGECE Secretary general



Cc:

Commission President Jean-claude Juncker, Head of Cabinet Martin Selmayr

Commission Vice President Maroš Šefčovič, Head of Cabinet Juraj Nociar

Commission Vice President Frans Timmermans, Head of Cabinet Gabriela Kečkéšová

Economics Commissioner Pierre Moscovici, Head of Cabinet Olivier Bailly

Energy Commissioner Arias Cañete, Head of Cabinet Cristina Lobillo Borrero

European Council President Van Rompuy, Special Advisor Peter Van Kemseke

Permanent Representative, Italian presidency of the Council Stefano Sannino

Members of the ITRE Committee, European Parliament

Commission Director-General for energy Dominique Ristori

European Investment Bank President Dr Werner Hoyer, Director Energy François  
Trevoux