



Mr Janez Potočnik
Commissioner-Designate
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
B – 1049 Brussels

18 December 2009

Dear Commissioner,

In January 2010, you will have a hearing with the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee in the European Parliament as Commissioner-Designate for Environment in the next European Commission.

After the global financial crisis, European companies and citizens aspire to brighter economic prospects. It is through business development and investments that Europe will find the capacity to meet societal and environmental challenges successfully and at the same time rebuild a sound macroeconomic environment. Putting companies and entrepreneurs at the heart of the EU's future policy agenda will be a key success factor for Europe.

We expect from the next Commission a clear commitment to open market principles. Introducing the necessary reforms to strengthen Europe's capacity for growth and job creation will require determined action on six priority issues:

- Fixing the financial system and restoring credit flows,
- Implementing reforms to attract investment and innovation,
- Developing a viable exit strategy to excessive public deficits,
- Boosting skills and human capital for the recovery,
- Bolstering open trade and fighting protectionism,
- Ensuring global commitments to fight climate change.

Europe's social and economic model, alongside a vibrant single market, a well-functioning monetary union and solid external relations, offers a strong base for turning current challenges into opportunities for development.

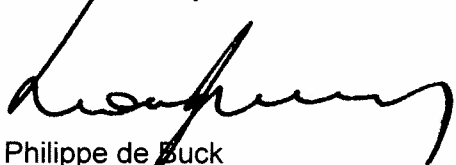
In your specific field of responsibility, European companies are keen to see concrete results on the following points:

1. A European environment policy which gives **full consideration to the impact on the competitiveness of EU industry** and to the need for favourable, stable and predictable framework conditions in which businesses can operate and invest. These principles must apply to the preparation of the 7th Community Environment Action Programme in particular.

2. A clear shift in European environment policy away from law-making and towards **implementation and enforcement** of the regulatory *acquis*.
3. A future Industrial Emissions Directive which preserves the **integrated approach and cost-effectiveness** of the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) Directive.
4. **A market-oriented policy** to promote sustainable consumption and production and the transition towards a more resource-efficient economy.

We attach more detailed policy briefings and positions on these issues and are confident that you will secure the European Parliament's endorsement to pursue a policy programme along the lines defined above.

Yours sincerely,



Philippe de Buck
Director General



Jürgen R. Thumann
President