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EU Energy and Climate 2030: greater consideration for competitiveness needed

- Europe needs a better balance between climate and industrial growth objectives -

EU leaders have agreed on key features of the EU energy and climate policy post-2020. European industry has significantly reduced its GHG emissions and is committed to bring to the market new technological solutions to climate change.

Today's conclusions lack a stronger impetus for Europe to rethink its policy in order to make it less distortive and to reduce emissions in a more cost-effective manner. There is no other alternative for Europe to protect investment and jobs.

Markus J. Beyrer, BUSINESSEUROPE Director General said:

“EU leaders didn't have the strength to re-orientate Europe's climate and energy policy towards the international competitiveness of EU industry.

The 40% emissions reduction target is highly ambitious, aiming at the same effort in 10 years as we are doing over 30 years. It must be re-assessed in the light of the upcoming climate negotiations in Paris.

It is also imperative to anticipate now stronger carbon leakage measures to avoid industrial re-location out of Europe based on lower climate objectives by other major economies.”

ENDS

Contact:

Peter Sennekamp
Director of Communications
168 Avenue de Cortenberg
1000 Brussels - Belgium
GSM : +32 496 919 315
p.sennekamp@businessseurope.eu

Peter Vertessy
Senior adviser, Press and media
168 Avenue de Cortenberg
1000 Brussels - Belgium
Tel : +32 (0) 2 237 65 03
p.vertessy@businessseurope.eu