



Mr Manfred Weber
Chair of the European People's Party (EPP)
European Parliament
Rue Wiertz 66
BE-1047 Brussels

9 December 2014

Dear Chair,

We would like to draw your attention to the ENVI Committee's decision to support the motion for resolution objecting the Commission's proposal laying down calculation methods and reporting requirements under the Fuel Quality Directive (FQD).

As the recent political developments between Russia and Ukraine show, the on-going debate about strengthening the EU's energy security of supply is highly topical. It is clear that the EU needs to be much more assertive in diversifying energy sources both domestically, but also internationally in order to avoid being too dependent on single suppliers.

This is true for the US where hopefully the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) agreement will end up in lifting existing export restrictions for oil and gas. This is true also for Canada which has the potential to become a more active player in global oil markets and a new supplier for Europe.

The final decision of the European Parliament on the FQD at the plenary vote next week needs to be placed in this much wider and strategic energy security context. If the ENVI Committee's decision is confirmed in the plenary vote, by imposing unfair trade restrictions, the EU will be black-listing oil sands import from Canada, a stable, reliable and democratic country and strong economic partner of the EU. The Members of the European Parliament should also be aware that there is on-going technological work in Canada for further improving environmental performance of oil sands exploitation.

A number of other reasons make the ENVI Committee's decision unreasonable, such as the fact that a five-year wide stakeholders consultation process has led to the definition of a workable, verifiable, and reliable methodology for fuels suppliers to comply with the 6% Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction target.

But above all I believe it is absolutely crucial to have in mind the geopolitical and long-term impact that such a decision would have in our relations with a key partner as Canada, as well as on our objective to diversify energy sources.



Against this background, BUSINESSEUROPE and all our member federations urge the European Parliament to support the Commission's proposal.

We thank you for your attention and please feel free to contact us if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Marcegaglia
President

Markus J. Beyrer
Director General