

BUSINESS QUOTES ACCOMPANYING THE LETTER AHEAD OF THE REPOWER PLAN

Brad Smith, President & Vice Chair, Microsoft Corporation said: “Climate change poses a unique challenge for Europe and the world. How do we accelerate the planet’s transition to a net zero future while meeting the growing energy needs of expanding economies? Microsoft is laser focused on putting our technology to work to do just that with our own operations, the business community, and societies across the planet.”

Eric Rondolat, CEO, Signify said: “Reducing energy consumption by scaling up energy efficiency in buildings and cities should be at the heart of the EU’s strategy to reduce both energy dependency from Russia and achieve its climate objectives and, as such, be one of the cornerstones of the upcoming RePowerEU Plan. As a leader in the development of efficient lighting solutions and user of renewable energy, Signify stands ready to play its part in the achievement of these objectives and the implementation of a plan that will not only help to deal with the immediate effects of this crisis but also put the EU on track to achieve climate neutrality in the long run.”

Ignacio S. Galán, Chairman & CEO, Iberdrola said: “The current context demonstrates the need to accelerate the energy transition to guarantee a sustainable, robust and fair economy. The structural solution is clear: accelerating the implementation of “Fit for 55” while firmly supporting renewable energy, efficient storage and smart networks to avoid future shocks, promote a self-sufficient energy system and reduce emissions. We have the technologies, a massive social consensus, and, as companies, we are ready to do our part and accompany our leaders in defining clear, stable, and coherent frameworks, based on European coordinated solutions, without exceptions, to accelerate the process.”

Eliot Whittington, Director, CLG Europe said: “Fossil fuels are on the way out and short-term pragmatism should not lock us in to outdated approaches that harm our economy and the planet. This letter demonstrates the broad and deep understanding in the EU business community that the best response to the Ukraine crisis lies in doubling down on the European Green Deal and accelerating energy efficiency and the transition towards clean energy. The EU should not miss the opportunity of the REPowerEU Plan to keep a 1.5°C compatible future in reach.”

Maria Mendiluce, CEO, We Mean Business Coalition said: “The EU has the chance to, once again, show climate leadership in the face of adversity with an ambitious REPowerEU plan that accelerates the just clean energy transition, reduces dependency on Russian fossil fuels and addresses soaring energy prices. Companies with operations in Europe are already innovating to support the clean energy transition, but the right government policies and investments that scale renewables, energy efficiency and electrification will help the private sector go even faster. We must take every measure to rapidly phase out fossil fuels to stabilize the climate and secure a livable future for all.”

David Briggs, CEO, VELUX said: “With the window to achieve the 1.5C target closing fast and in the face of challenges from dependence on fossil fuels, we must all work together to accelerate the transition to a greener and more prosperous Europe. Over a third of global CO2 emissions come from the building industry, which means the sector has a critical role to play in tackling climate change. At VELUX we’re committed to the 1.5c pathway - bringing emissions from operations to near zero and halving value chain emissions by 2030. This means investing in energy efficiency and switching to 100% renewable energy in our production and partnering across our supply chain to find solutions together.”

Carey Causey, President, Ball Beverage Packaging EMEA said: “With our science-based target goals in mind, Ball has already achieved 100% renewable electricity in Europe, including through two long-term virtual power purchase agreements. The upcoming RePowerEU Plan should provide a clear signal that will enable companies to do their part and scale up their demand for renewable energy.”

Ron Wit, Director of Energy Transition, Eneco said: “In our hearts we all know it - there is no Planet B. There is only one Earth, and we need to take good care of it. We invite everyone to deliver on the Green Deal now! Because 2030 is tomorrow.”

Joakim Byström, CEO, Absolicon Solar Collector AB said: “Solar thermal is the third largest source of renewable heat and can provide Europe with an extra 500 TWh of renewable heat in 2030, covering 90% of the decrease of Russian gas. This potential should be reflected in the upcoming RePowerEU Plan.”

Lorenzo Spadoni, President, AIRU, Associazione Italiana Riscaldamento Urbano, said: “The current geopolitical situation requires Europe to act quickly and concretely. However, it is of primary importance not to nullify the path of decarbonization on which the Union has invested heavily in the last decade. District heating has a key role to play to reduce gas consumption address, energy poverty, and continue the path towards a sustainable EU.”

Eric Scotto, President, AKUO said: “We witness on a daily basis that incidents of extreme weather are increasing as a result of climate change. I cannot live with the idea we have the solutions at hands, like exiting from fossil fuels thanks to renewable energy, and we fail acting right now. It is our collective responsibility to reverse the trend, now.”

Peter Sweatman, CEO, Climate Strategy & Partners said: “The REPowerEU Energy Savings Action Plan needs to have a new instrument that reaches needy homeowners across the Member States providing fair and attractive additional support to accelerate the Renovation Wave. We propose an EU Renovation Loan using undrawn recovery loans to provide deep renovation finance to European families who don't qualify for green mortgages.”

Tim Höttges, CEO, Deutsche Telekom said: “Our dependency on fossil fuels is our Achilles' heel. Ecologically, and also economically and politically. Every ton of less CO2 is a bit more future for all of us. It's not about what we want to do tomorrow. It's about what we do today.”

Maxim Timchenko, CEO, DTEK said: “DTEK remains committed to accelerated transition to a climate neutral energy system in Ukraine by 2040. We appeal to European and global energy companies to stop any dealings with Russian energy sector that channels money to support the outrageous war against Ukraine. DTEK strongly supports Ukraine's application to become a member of the European Union and alignment with the European Green Deal. We already invested USD 1.6 billion in wind and solar projects in Ukraine. DTEK will continue developing renewable energy capacities in Ukraine as soon as situation allows.”

Francesco Starace, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, Enel said: “We strongly support European Union's commitment to accelerate energy transition towards a carbon free energy system. Therefore, an ambitious REPowerEU Plan will highly contribute to move away from fossil fuels and to ensure energy security, accelerating at the same time the electrification of the energy demand in a sustainable way in order to reach a net zero economy at European level as soon as possible.”

James Brueton, CEO, EnviroBuild said: “There has never been a more compelling time scientifically, politically or socially to make the rapid move away from the outdated ideology of fossil fuels. It's time to act to provide a better future for the world.”

Luis García Codrón, CEO, Europa Mundo Vacaciones said: “Europamundo is committed to accelerate measures to reduce energy consumption through energy efficiency thereby standing ready to support the implementation of the REPowerEU Plan and Green Deal.”

Dolf van den Brink, Chairman Executive Board / CEO, HEINEKEN NV said: “We believe that the REPowerEU Plan can play an important role accelerating the energy transition and helping to achieve the objectives of the European Green Deal. This is also important to us at HEINEKEN as we transition to clean energy sources and work to deliver our net zero carbon ambition.”

James Thornton, CEO, Intrepid Travel said: “Intrepid Travel is committed to taking real action on climate change, guided by our verified science-based emissions targets. Renewables are a key part of our plan, which includes moving all our sites to renewable energy by 2025.”

Giuseppe Spanto, Managing Director, ISCLEANAIR said: “We clean the ambient air we all breathe, creating healthier and safer places to live and work. Everywhere. We strongly believe in a CLEAN AIR WORLD and operate with passion and enthusiasm at the service of people and the environment.”

Yves Desmet, CEO, Isoltechnics said: “Insulating industrial plants enables to combine short-term energy savings and long-term economic benefits through jobs and growth thereby playing a key role to address the current crisis.”

Darren James, CEO, Keltbray Group said: “At Keltbray our mission is to redefine the way sustainable development is delivered and to align our operations and services to the science-based targets. It is critical that the correct policies are put in place to enable the correct investments and engineering solutions to be made in order to adhere to the recommendations of the IPCC and achieve the science-based target.”

David Ducarme, Group Chief Operating Officer, Knauf Insulation said: “The Commission’s REPowerEU plan aims to reduce Europe’s dependence on energy supplies from Russia. But to ensure its success, energy efficiency must be put at the heart of every action. Energy efficiency must support the decrease of energy consumption and serve as a building block for an efficient roll out of solutions, such as heat pumps. Energy efficiency has to be the cornerstone of a new era of energy security for Europe.”

Thierry Déau, CEO, Meridiam said: “Meridiam is committed to invest for people and the people and accelerate the path towards the sustainable development goals. The current crisis must cast light on our dependency on fossil fuels and be a trigger to an acceleration of sustainable policies.”


Geoffroy van Raemdonck, CEO, Neiman Marcus Group said: “At Neiman Marcus Group, our efforts to promote energy efficiency, electrification, and renewable energy within our direct operations are a critical part of our business strategy to Revolutionize Luxury Experiences. As we seek to make life extraordinary for everyone in our ecosystem and expand our efforts to address Scope 3 emissions, we are dedicated to advocating for policies that make it easier for our many European luxury brand partners to adopt these efforts within their operations as well.”

Jacob Mayne, Managing Partner, NEW ANGLES said: “To accelerate the transition in society governments must partner with business in the spirit of collective intelligence for purposeful action. Just as managers in companies look to the holders of power in their organisations for coherent decisions and commitments that make sense, companies look to governments for strategic signposting, decisions, legislation and investments that enable the transition in business.”

Giuseppe Lasco, General Co-Director, Poste Italiane SpA said: “In the last years, companies have had to face various global challenges, such as health emergencies and climate change risks and lastly the Ukrainian war, which urges us to take necessary steps to strengthen Europe’s energy security and resilience by accelerating the green transition. Poste Italiane has given great support to the country in this difficult context by taking a sound path towards carbon neutrality, promoting green initiatives within the company and the local communities.”

Antonio Potenza, CEO, Proodos Capital said: “We welcome the EU’s leadership in seeking to unite and strengthen Europe’s response to the multiple challenges we face today, from war and the pandemic to the climate and nature emergencies. We need policies that reflect a sustainable long-term vision that embraces change and deliver a safer, healthier, and more prosperous Europe.”

Jochen Eickholt, CEO, Siemens Gamesa: “The role to be played by the wind industry, under the imperative of current events and the urgent focus on energy security, is critical. Our industry is ready to take up the challenge to deliver. REPowerEU should look to ensure that the appropriate policy framework is enacted to facilitate the achievement of climate targets in the time envisaged. That is to say we need to inject more speed in the permitting process, while reinforcing the resiliency of the supply chain and establishing the pillars for a fully transformational green economy.”



Nicolas Faller, Co-CEO Asset Management, Union Bancaire Privée said: “Convinced that the financial sector has a key role to play in the fight against climate change, UBP fully endorses the need for an ambitious REPowerEU Plan as advocated by the ILG and co-signatories to the letter. We are committed to helping our clients make responsible investment decisions that support climate solutions and offering impactful investment products that can finance the transition to a low-carbon, secure energy future and phase down funding of non-transitioning, fossil fuel-dependent activities.”

Morten Dyrholm, Group Senior Vice-President, MarCom, Sustainability & Public Affairs, Vestas said: “The science is clear. GHG emissions have to peak before 2025 and nearly halve by 2030 if we were to have a meaningful change of meeting the Paris Agreement. We have to accelerate the Clean Energy Transition NOW.”

Olivier Pons Y Moll, President, WELYA said: “Industrial processes energy audits are a key tool to increase energy efficiency in the industry sector where energy use is very high, and as such, should be part of EU coordinated efforts and Member States strategies to decrease energy dependency and reduce emissions.”

Aurélie Beauvais, Managing Director, Euroheat & Power said: “To break free from fossil fuels imports and accelerate the decarbonization of Europe’s heating sector, we must massively deploy home grown and sustainable heating solutions. Efficient district heating is a critical piece of this equation.”

Andreas Guertler, Foundation Director, European Industrial Insulation Foundation said: “The energy we don’t use, we don’t need to import. Energy efficiency first.”

Nina Ekelund, Executive Director, Haga Initiative: “A robust and long-term policy is needed for companies to invest in the climate transition. Don’t create uncertainties about where policy is headed – keep your sights clear on climate transition in line with 1.5C degrees.”

Pedro Dias, Secretary General, Solar Heat Europe said: “The solar heating & cooling sector supports the European Commission’s goal of reducing Europe’s dependency on gas and oil and stresses that it will be possible only by switching attention to direct renewable heat solutions manufactured in Europe and that can bring immediate results, such as solar heat. The sector also declares that with strong measures, solar heat technology can provide 25 TWh of direct heat in the next 2 years, saving the equivalent of 3 billion m³ of gas annually.”

Ana Struna Bregar, CEO, CER - Sustainable Business Network Slovenia said: “CER is proud to be the largest sustainable business network in Slovenia with 100 responsible business members, which consider that the green transition can only be achieved through synergies between business action and ambitious climate policies both at EU and national level.”

Valentín, Alfaya, President, Spanish Green Growth Group said: “We need to accelerate the ecological transition in order to address current energy challenges.”