

Brussels, 28th October 2020

Dear Rapporteurs Siegfried Mureşan, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Dragoş Pîslaru;

Dear Shadow Rapporteurs: José Manuel Fernandes, Costas Mavrides, Luis Garicano, Damian Boeselager, Ernest Urtasun, José Gusmão, Dimitrios Papadimoulis;

Dear European Parliament Group leaders Manfred Weber, Iratxe García Pérez, Dacian Cioloş, Ska Keller, Philippe Lamberts, Martin Schirdewan, Manon Aubry;

RE: Guaranteeing a Green Recovery across Europe in Next Generation EU - your role in excluding fossil fuels from the Recovery and Resilience Facility

We are writing to urge you to exclude fossil fuels from the scope of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), the largest envelope in Next Generation EU.

The European Parliament has demonstrated bold ambition in ensuring the EU's political framework is a true catalyst for the ecological transition in the EU and the creation of millions of future-proof jobs. The European Parliament's decision to increase the EU's 2030 climate target to 60% greenhouse gas reduction or the recent Environment Committee vote to ban fossil fuel subsidies from the RRF are just a few examples of this.

Investment decisions made today will shape European economies for decades to come, impacting our and the next generation's jobs and health. In particular, the 672.5 billion euros of the RRF have the capacity to transform the Union's economy. Continuing to finance fossil fuels, including gas, is unacceptable: it's in direct contradiction with the climate goals of the Parliament and of the EU as a whole, as well as with the objectives of the Paris agreement and, ultimately, with science.

Fossil gas is not a 'bridge solution' on the pathway towards climate neutrality. Methane, the primary component of gas, is a dangerous greenhouse gas over 84 times more damaging than CO₂ emissionsⁱ. Fossil fuel subsidies distort markets, lock regions into fossil fuel dependency for decades, hamper the roll-out of cost competitive renewable energy and energy savings solutions and thus prevent the creation of millions of new jobs all over Europeⁱⁱ.

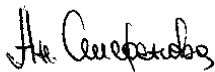
Green 10 is chaired by CEE Bankwatch Network
Brussels office: Rue d'Edimbourg, 26
1050 Ixelles, Belgium
Tel. Office : +32 496 205 903
Email: secretariat@green10.org

Headquarter office: Heřmanova 1088/8, 170 00 Praha 7, Czech Republic, Tel.Office: + 420 777 995 515E

Soon, the European Parliament's negotiation mandate for the RRF will be in your hands. We, the Green 10, the ten largest environmental networks in Europe with more than 54 million members, urge you to exclude fossil fuels from the scope of the RRF, and to create an ambitious legal framework that will steer EU economies towards climate neutrality.

It is your responsibility to ensure that those investments contribute to a sustainable recovery.

Yours sincerely,



Anelia Stefanova,
Program Director CEE Bankwatch Network, and current chair of the Green 10.

Also on behalf of:

BirdLife Europe - Ariel Brunner, Senior Head of Policy

Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe - Wendel Trio, Director

European Environmental Bureau (EEB) - Jeremy Wates, Secretary General

European Federation for Transport and Environment (T&E) - William Todts, Executive Director

Friends of the Earth Europe - Jagoda Munic, Director

Greenpeace European Unit – Magda Stoczkiewicz, Deputy Director

Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) - Genon K. Jensen, Executive Director

Naturefriends International - Manfred Pils, Executive Director

WWF European Policy Office (WWF EPO)- Ester Asin, Director

ⁱ https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/SYR_AR5_FINAL_full.pdf

ⁱⁱ <http://www.caneurope.org/docman/climate-energy-targets/3662-fossil-gas-should-not-receive-public-funds/file>