

Brussels,  
Thursday, December 5, 2019

Dear Mr. Timmermans,  
Dear Mrs. Simson,

I am writing to you on behalf of the European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE), the voice of the cooling industry in Europe. We believe that the upcoming European Green Deal is a major opportunity to promote the implementation of a sustainable cooling approach, which would maximise the benefits of cooling whilst creating the smallest footprint in terms of greenhouse gas emissions and electrical peak demand.

Cooling includes comfort cooling for people (in their homes, offices, shopping centres, etc.) as well as cooling of products (production, transport and storage of food, medicines, leisure applications such as ice rinks, etc.). With climate change and increasing urbanisation and digitalisation, a massive growth in the use of cooling is expected, which will deliver substantial benefits in many respects – including human health and productivity, reduction of food loss and safe supply of heat sensitive medicine – but could also lead to an increase in energy consumption, electrical peak demand and emissions if not properly addressed.

The EU policy framework has already taken steps forward to deliver sustainable cooling but there is still a major gap in terms of its implementation. [EPEE's White Paper](#) outlines five steps, which would result in optimising cooling demand, increasing the energy efficiency of cooling systems, and enabling a shift towards renewable energy sources by integrating the cooling sector into the power generation system. Examples include heat recovery from cooling installations, thermal storage, demand response, and many more.

Sustainable cooling technologies and integrated solutions are readily available, but their broad deployment is hindered by, for instance, silo thinking between demand and supply side, low political and market awareness about the benefits of energy efficient and integrated solutions and challenges to attract, retain and upskill professionals.

**Therefore, EPEE calls on policy makers to help overcoming these barriers for the benefit of people, the environment and the EU economy and competitiveness with:**

- ✓ An integrated approach that encourages flexibility and synergies between heating and cooling.
- ✓ Full implementation and enforcement of EU laws (e.g. Clean Energy Package) with national heating and cooling plans, for example as part of the National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs).
- ✓ A framework to drive investments into sustainable solutions, by encouraging a balance of investment into demand side solutions and power infrastructure and by putting an end to subsidising fossil fuels.
- ✓ Support of smart appliances and awareness raising tools to inform, empower and motivate consumers.
- ✓ Lifelong learning for installers and the adaptation of their curriculum to evolving needs.

We believe that it is possible to get the maximum benefits of sustainable cooling in the most cost effective way with coordinated efforts at national and EU level, and with cooperation between experts from the power sector and the cooling industry, as well as from the public and the private sector. The Green Deal is in that respect a golden opportunity to leverage the potential of sustainable cooling described in our White Paper.



We look forward to keeping in contact with you and your services, and of course remain at your disposal for any questions that you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Andrea Voigt

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Voigt', is positioned below the printed name.

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