

16 November 2023

The Clock is Ticking: Industry Call to Endorse of the Balanced Text Approved by the ITRE Committee

Dear Members of the European Parliament,

In these challenging times for the European Union, a critical imperative emerges — to seamlessly transition towards a more socially responsible and sustainable, low-carbon economy, all while fostering an environment that magnetizes investments. The potential harbored within the Net Zero Industry Act is immense, holding the key to bolstering the resilience of Europe's clean energy supply chains and ensuring an equitable energy transition.

Nevertheless, a sense of urgency and assertiveness must be injected into the European Union's approach. The Inflation Reduction Act, signed into law by US President Biden in August 2022, stands as a testament to the swift and comprehensive action taken on clean energy, climate mitigation, and resilience. The moment has arrived for the European Union to craft a regulatory framework that not only entices investors but also cultivates the growth of European clean manufacturing.

As the plenary vote approaches in the coming days, we strongly urge the European Parliament to cast their votes in favor of the Net Zero Industry Act. The Net Zero Industry Act holds the potential to be a transformative force, one that can fortify Europe's clean energy supply chains and propel us towards a future defined by resilience and environmental consciousness. Clean energy, climate mitigation, and resilience are not just buzzwords; they are the cornerstones upon which our sustainable future is built. It is now our turn to rise to the occasion and set the stage for a European renaissance in clean manufacturing and sustainable investments.

Specifically, we advocate for the endorsement of the meticulously balanced text approved by the ITRE Committee of the European Parliament. Supporting the approved text could contribute to generate €600 billion annually of net-zero technologies globally by 2030. The signatories of this letter urge the European Parliament to especially defend and approve the following improvements included by the ITRE Committee:

- The weight of sustainability and resilience contribution in tenders extended to at least 30% in public procurements.
- The weight of sustainability and resilience's contribution in tenders extended to 35–50% in auctions.
- The cost difference will be assumed as disproportionate when the price difference is above 30% in public procurements. Cost difference will be assumed to be disproportionate when the price difference is above 15% in auctions.
- Pre-qualification criteria introduced for public procurements and auctions — no more than 50% of the net-zero technology part of the tender shall originate from third countries that are not signatories of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA).

Supporting this legislation is not merely a vote; it is a strategic move towards shaping a more sustainable future for our continent. It signals the European Union's unwavering commitment to environmental responsibility and innovation, showcasing leadership on the global stage. Let it be a call to investors far and wide, assuring them that Europe is not just open for business but is the vanguard of a green and prosperous future.

Now, more than ever, is the time for resolute action to propel Europe towards a greener and economically robust future. Let this be the chapter in history where we catalyse investments that not only stimulate our economies but also propel us towards a future where environmental stewardship is not a choice but an inherent part of our identity.

Yours sincerely,

The undersigned

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