



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
CLIMATE ACTION

The Director-General

Brussels
CLIMA.DG/

European Biogas Association
info@europeanbiogas.eu

World Biogas Association
info@worldbiogasassociation.org

Dear Mr Dekker, dear Ms Morton,

Thank you for the letter addressed to the Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans, in which you highlight the importance of biogas and its recognition in the EU Nationally Determined Contribution.

The European Green Deal has set a high level of ambition for climate neutrality. In the Communication on the Climate Target Plan, the Commission has listed a broad set of actions required across all sectors of the economy to achieve an EU-wide, economy-wide net greenhouse gas emissions reduction target of at least 55% by 2030 compared to 1990. All sectors will need to contribute to fulfil these goals.

This new and significantly more ambitious EU climate target for 2030 was endorsed by the European Council on 11 December 2020. The EU's nationally determined contribution (NDC) was updated according to the new target, and submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat in the end of last year. With this submission, the EU enhanced its NDC in good time for COP26 and sent a strong signal to other nations that can count on the EU to lead this global transition.

The transport sector is one of the sectors where, until now, emissions have not declined. A 90% reduction in transport emissions is needed by 2050 to reach the climate neutrality objective. Reaching this target will require introducing more ambitious policies to reduce transport's reliance on fossil fuels without delay.

As noted in the Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy and its accompanying Commission Staff Working Document, biomethane is part of the overall alternative fuels mix at EU level. For its future use in transport, due attention should be paid to available feedstock, competing demands from other sectors such as industry and the necessary pathways of the different transport modes towards zero emission solutions. In view of the projected availability of biomethane, it is likely to play a role in modes of transport that have little other alternatives.

The Commission is now working on a set of policy initiatives to implement the European Green Deal and the increased 2030 climate ambition. This includes the revision of the fuels related legislation and preparing new initiatives promoting sustainable alternative

fuels in the aviation and maritime sectors. At the same time, the Commission will revise the CO₂ emission standards for cars and vans in order to ensure a clear pathway towards zero-emission mobility.

Please let me also reaffirm our commitment to make use of all available financial instruments to support these objectives, and to ensure a fair and inclusive transition towards a climate neutral economy.

Yours sincerely,

(e-signed)

Mauro PETRICCIONE