

THE MINISTER

Date **22 JUNI 2007**

Our ref. 703-19

Your ref.

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Commissioner for Energy,  
Mr. Andris Piebalgs  
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B-1049 Bruxelles  
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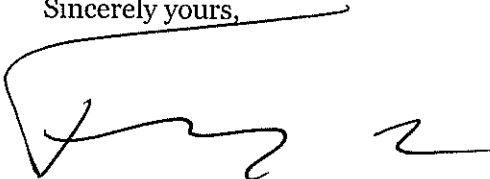
Dear Commissioner,

We were all pleased to note that at the TTE-council meeting on 6 June 2007 there was a clear majority in favour of ownership unbundling at transmission level, confirming a positive trend over the last few years. We agree with the Commission's analysis which clearly points out that ownership unbundling is the best solution. Independent transmission system operators without ownership interests in production and supply will ensure the best possible incentives for investments in infrastructure and non-discriminatory behaviour.

We have not found any of the arguments in favour of alternative models for separating production and supply from transmission convincing. On the contrary, the alternative models will not eliminate the built-in conflicts of interest within companies that own infrastructure and at the same time have commercial interests in production and supply. Furthermore, it is obvious that ownership unbundling of the transmission system operator will avoid the negative consequences of alternative solutions, namely overly detailed and complex regulation and disproportionate administrative burdens.

We therefore urge the Commission to maintain its preferred solution as identified in the 10 January package and look forward to its proposal for a third energy liberalization package with strong provisions on ownership unbundling at transmission level.

Sincerely yours,



Flemming Hansen

on behalf of

Mr Marc Verwilghen, Minister of Economy, Energy, Trade and Science,  
Belgium

Mr Mauri Pekkarinen, Minister of Trade and Industry, Finland

Ms Maria J.A. van der Hoeven, Minister of Economic Affairs, The Netherlands



Side 2/2

Mr Varujan Vosganian, Minister of Economy and Finance, Romania  
Mr Joan Clos i Matheu, Minister of Industry, Tourism and Trade, Spain  
Ms Maud Olofsson, Minister of Enterprise and Energy, Sweden  
Lord Truscott, Minister for Energy, United Kingdom

An identical letter has been sent to Commissioner Neelie Kroes.