

voestalpine

ONE STEP AHEAD.



JOINT DECLARATION SUPPORTING A EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK FOR INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL RENEWABLE SELF-CONSUMPTION

Dear Sirs,

Industrial and commercial consumers accounts for around half of Europe's electricity consumption today.

Renewable self-consumption enables large energy consumers in the IT, chemicals, steel, aluminium, glass, concrete and many other energy intensive industries to secure a supply of clean electricity at a competitive price. Renewable self-consumption can also drive energy cost reduction and support the competitiveness of Europe's large SME base, improving their profitability and security of energy supply.

Renewable self-consumption is an important tool supporting European industries to achieve their carbon reduction commitments, while supporting Member States to achieve their climate & renewable energy targets. The potential is huge, as alone 67TWh of green electricity supply will have to be developed by 2030, only to satisfy the commitments of the RE100 companies (which are committed to 100% renewable electricity supply)¹ based in Europe.

Self-consumption will thus bring forward billions of euros of investment and innovation in clean energy technologies in Europe to the benefit of European industry.

¹ Bloomberg New Energy Finance

To ensure that these benefits occur in Europe, and in the frame of the current negotiations on Art 21 of the Renewable Energy Directive, signatories of this declaration urge policy makers to enable a stable and transparent framework for industrial and commercial self-consumption:

- All European industrial and commercial consumers should be enabled to become renewable energy self-consumers, by developing projects which have no negative impact due to indirect land use change. Barriers to the development of industrial and commercial self-consumption deprives European businesses from a strong competitive advantage.
- The Renewable Energy Directive should empower European businesses to self-consume by enabling the development of innovative business models such as leasing, third party ownership, collective self-consumption, renewable Power Purchase Agreements, or the installation of direct lines within industrial and commercial areas.
- Member States should address legitimate concerns on the financing of the system costs and surcharge mechanisms currently in place in some countries, without suffocating the potential of self-consumption in Europe. Also, they should be urged to implement measures that allow for a full realization of the benefits related to flexibility services that can be provided by intelligent self-consumption oriented renewable energy installations.

European industrial and commercial consumers are committed to supporting a clean energy future for Europe. They are also committed to a sustained financing of necessary system infrastructure. With the right self-consumption framework in place, they will support the European Union in bringing its energy transition to the next level and become a global leader in renewables.