

## Grid operators and green groups united in calling for binding 2030 renewables targets

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Berlin, 26 February 2014

**Today, the Renewables Grid Initiative (RGI), a unique coalition of NGOs and electricity grid operators (TSOs), issued a statement supporting an EU 2030 climate and energy policy framework with clear, ambitious objectives for the development of renewables.**

In March, the European heads of state and government will discuss the EU 2030 climate and energy policy framework. RGI calls on the European Council to agree in a timely manner on an ambitious and coherent set of binding targets for 2030 for (i) greenhouse gas emissions reductions, (ii) energy efficiency and (iii) renewable energy. The related needs for grid development and system security must be carefully considered when designing supporting mechanisms and policies.

"Industry and civil society have come to a common understanding of what is urgently needed now", said Antonella Battaglini, Executive Director of RGI. "The build up of grid infrastructure is intrinsically connected with the uptake of renewable energy. Robust 2030 targets will bring clarity for investors and confidence among local communities."

"Grid development is a long-term exercise", said Boris Schucht, CEO of 50Hertz. "Clear political targets for 2030 will give us the confidence to plan and build only the needed grid infrastructure for the transition towards a sustainable energy economy."

"Climate change will drive mass extinctions if we don't switch to sustainable renewable energy", said Angelo Caserta, Regional Director BirdLife Europe. "But nature is already in crisis, and the transition itself needs to take nature protection seriously too. With this statement the RGI and its partners have, once again, shown leadership in making sure renewables investment, grid development and nature protection are mutually beneficial."

See the full statement and a background paper on 2030 projections and targets here: <http://renewables-grid.eu/documents/rji-position-papers/2030-framework.html>

Press contact: Theresa Schneider, [theresa@renewables-grid.eu](mailto:theresa@renewables-grid.eu), +49 162 2056686

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### About RGI

The Renewables-Grid-Initiative (RGI) promotes 100% integration of electricity produced from renewable energy sources. TSOs and NGOs join forces in RGI to support the build-up of a sufficient grid infrastructure in Europe for both decentralised and large-scale renewable energy sources. This grid development should be efficient, sustainable, timely, environmentally friendly, and socially acceptable to all stakeholders. RGI was launched in July 2009. Full list of partners and more information: [www.renewables-grid.eu](http://www.renewables-grid.eu)