The Electrification Alliance

Electricity for an Efficient and Decarbonised Europe

We, the signatories to this Declaration,

Recognising that climate change poses a serious threat to global environmental, economic and social stability, and progress;

Underlining that decarbonisation is essential to guarantee the long-term sustainability of the global economy;

Stressing that urgent action is required to achieve the objectives under the Paris Climate Agreement, which we fully support;

Acknowledging that electricity adds value to our everyday lives and the economy, including a cleaner urban environment, and its versatility means that it has also become indispensable to modern society;

Recognising that electricity has already been adopted as the main energy carrier across key sectors of the economy;

Convinced that electricity in Europe must become decarbonised by 2050;

Believing that electricity will continue to reveal its true value in years to come as it becomes the key vector for achieving a decarbonised, energy efficient and digital economy;

Have agreed as follows:

1. We are fully committed to demonstrating the significant potential of electricity on its path towards decarbonisation. We will continue to support reductions in carbon intensity and the scale up of investment in non-emitting technologies like renewables, energy storage and smart grids towards a decarbonised electricity mix. We aim to maximise the potential of decarbonised electricity and enabling technologies to advance Europe’s competitiveness, economic growth, job creation, and the promotion of a sustainable, healthy society for European citizens.

2. We will promote sectoral integration and the important role that electric technologies will play in the decarbonisation of other sectors of the economy, such as transport and heating and cooling in residential, commercial and industrial applications. The value proposition of electricity will be magnified as these sectors will also benefit from upcoming investments to further decarbonise electricity generation. Extending the value of such investments will contribute to optimising and stabilising the entire European energy system and avoid investment lock-in.

3. We support the development and deployment of electro-mobility and associated infrastructure. We believe that electro-mobility delivers essential reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, air, and noise pollution with significant benefits to European citizens’ health. The use of electric vehicle batteries as flexible demand and decentralised energy storage will allow higher renewable penetration and increase the reliability of electricity supply.

4. We support the development and deployment of smart and efficient heating and cooling technologies which deliver environmental benefits, contribute to improving system efficiency, flexibility and stability, provide energy storage solutions, and allow for direct demand response measures.

5. We support the evolution towards a more flexible energy system which will rely on smarter and better-connected grids, enhanced storage solutions and a more flexible demand.

6. We believe that consumers can play – individually and collectively - a greater role in the energy transition across the different sectors (power, mobility, heating and cooling) and hence support an even greater transparency to better guide their choices.

Accordingly, we call on European and national policymakers and stakeholders to:

- Acknowledge and support the crucial role that decarbonised electricity and efficient electric technologies will play in the achievement of Europe’s climate and energy objectives and its commitments under the Paris Agreement;

- Recognise that decarbonised electricity becomes a key vehicle for a sustainable European economy; an improved methodology for calculating the Primary Energy Factor is essential;

- Further deploy the needed recharging infrastructure for a rapid roll-out of e-mobility solutions, alongside the adoption and implementation of ambitious CO2 emission standards for passenger cars, light and heavy duty vehicles that encourage zero emission vehicles;

- Remove barriers to electrification and actively support incentives and initiatives that accelerate the shift towards competitively priced decarbonised electricity for European consumers;

- Enable the deployment of smart grid technologies, related to electricity distribution network automation, smart metering, advanced data management and demand response.
ELECTRIFICATION ALLIANCE PARTNERS

SUPPORTING PARTNERS*

*at 21 September 2017