



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY AND TRANSPORT

DIRECTORATE D - New and Renewable Energy Sources, Energy Efficiency & Innovation
Regulatory Policy & Promotion of Renewable Energy Sources

Brussels, 6 January 2010
TREN/D1/TH/pd D(2010) 50094

Subject: Request for cooperation for a study by the European Commission of the inventory of non-cost barriers with regard to renewable energy

Dear Sir/Madam,

Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources requires Member States to remove non-cost barriers: i.e. the unintended barriers as identified in various Commission progress reports such as authorization delays, uncertain timing, unclear procedures, lack of certification, absence of training, lack of technical standards, insufficient awareness amongst some types of stakeholders, discriminatory subsidies, and so on.

The Commission is taking a number of measures to assist Member States in implementing the Directive, including the launching of a study to gather detailed information about these non cost barriers. The goal of this study is to prepare a complete and detailed overview of barriers by Member State (and across the EU for some barriers). All renewable energy technologies will be considered. The idea is to be as specific and quantitative as possible, to establish how the various procedures, standards and certification regimes function and to determine best practices to mitigate the barriers.


The European Commission has commissioned a consortium led by ECORYS to execute this study. Other consortium partners are Golder Associates, Eclareon and EREC. A stakeholder consultation is part of this assessment. The purpose of the consultation is to undertake an inventory of all barriers by Member State.

The work of the consortium and thus the quality of the study depends very much on the cooperation and support from relevant stakeholders. The consortium will organize workshops and conduct interviews with a large number of stakeholders to collect information in this area. I would kindly ask you to assist the consortium in this important work.

The information obtained in the course of the study is protected by the confidentiality clauses contained in the contract between ECORYS and the European Commission. The European Commission, in turn, will respect the rules applicable on access to documents provided for in Council Regulation 1049/2001.

For further information, the contact person in the European Commission is Mr Tom Howes in DG TREN (Tom.Howes@ec.europa.eu). The contact persons of the consortium are Mr Jeroen Daey Ouwens (Jeroen.DaeyOuwens@ecorys.com, +31 (0)653 336 185), Mr Raffaele Piria (RP@eclareon.com, +49 177 6771 255), Ms Livia Manzone (LManzone@golder.it, +39 348 08 11 424) and Ms Christine Lins (Lins@erec.org, + 32 2 546 1933).

I highly appreciate your kind assistance.



Hans van Steen
Head of Unit