

## PRESSEMELDUNG

### **EU Green Deal Industrial Plan: "The solutions are actually already on the table"**

The EU unveiled its plan to ramp up green technologies today. The new strategy seeks to prioritise investment in Europe as a business location and thus support the domestic 'net-zero' industry. According to Ralf Diemer, Managing Director of the eFuel Alliance, the Commission's plan follows the right direction, but neglects essential aspects.

**Brussels/Berlin, 01. February 2023:**

With a comprehensive strategy paper, the EU Commission presented its Green Deal Industrial Plan today. The EU is reacting with this to the Inflation Reduction Act of the USA, which was published in the summer last year. The plan describes how the EU intends to shape the industrial policy framework for building a climate-neutral industry and how to face strong competition on the global market. The planned measures include targeted financial redistributions and more flexibility in granting these funds, simplified regulatory frameworks, strengthening partnerships and building new supply chains, as well as coping mechanisms for the current skills shortage.

"We strongly welcome the ambitions and commitment of the EU Commission. In particular, the plans to simplify regulations and speed up approval procedures will greatly support the ramp-up of climate-friendly technologies. These are important steps to strengthen the resilience of Europe as a business location in the long term. The plan explicitly emphasises speed and a predictable and simplified regulatory environment. The Commission must deliver here. The hydrogen ramp-up, for example, is being massively delayed by complicated and delayed legislation. More than a year after the official deadline in December 2021, companies are still waiting for the Commission to finally publish the two long overdue specifications for the production of renewable hydrogen and its downstream products such as eFuels. One solution would be a proper package including an agreement on an ambitious Renewable Energy Directive (REDIII). The industry is already investing, just increasingly outside the EU," says Ralf Diemer, executive director of the eFuel Alliance.

REDIII is currently in the final trilogue phase between Parliament, Council and Commission. The position of the Parliament should point the way forward. The publication of the delegated acts has been repeated for more than a year and has been postponed against the given deadline. The absence of these sustainability criteria means that industry lacks planning and investment certainty, which is only cushioned to a limited extent by the new package of measures. "The European continent is moving decisively ahead in terms of climate protection and is, as it were, counteracting its own goals. The relevant levers are available, they just need to be pushed, first and foremost the revision of the Energy Tax Directive. However, the political negotiations are stagnating. The current energy taxation treats conventional fossil fuels and climate-neutral renewable fuels equally. Incentives for the production of sustainable alternatives are thus missing. The solutions are already on the table," notes Diemer.

The publication of the legislations to implement the Industrial Plan's goals is expected in the coming weeks. This will provide a first basis to enable the industry to achieve the ambitious climate targets. Hopefully the Commission will back up its words with deeds and enable the rapid development of a climate-friendly economy.

**>>>The eFuel Alliance e.V.<<<**

The eFuel Alliance is an interest group committed to promoting political and social acceptance of eFuels and to securing their regulatory approval. We represent more than 170 companies, associations and consumer organizations along the eFuel production value chain. We stand for fair competition and equal competitive condition for all relevant emission reduction solutions. We are firmly committed to further climate change mitigation and seek recognition for the significant part eFuels can play in sustainability and climate protection. Our aim is to create the conditions for the industrial production and widespread use of CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral fuels from renewable sources of energy.

## PRESSEMELDUNG

**>>>CONTACT<<<**

eFuel Alliance e.V.

Head of Press and Public Relations

Jan Wehrhold

T +49 160 6585763

E [wehrhold@efuel-alliance.eu](mailto:wehrhold@efuel-alliance.eu)