CONNIE HEDEGAARD MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 14 July 2010 A (2010) 951 & 1735 D (2010) 660

Dear Members of the European Parliament,

Thank you for your letters setting out your concerns regarding the implementation of Article 7a of the Fuel Quality Directive.

The Commission has so far not made a proposal. However, as I have explained when I had the opportunity to discuss this issue with some of you recently, I have taken the decision that there needs to be a specific default value for tar sands as quickly as possible and I would like to reassure you that this political commitment will be clearly reflected in the proposal which will be put forward to Member States after the summer break.

I have asked my services to look again into the question of how quickly we could establish such a value using sound data. In view of this, I cannot present, at this stage, the final approach that will be followed.

Let me however assure you that the Commission will come up with a balanced proposal, including solid reporting requirements necessary for demonstrating compliance with the target and for facilitating updates to the methodology in the future.

I look forward to our future cooperation on this topic.

Yours sincerely

Satu Hassi Sirpa Pietikäinen Caroline Lucas

Bart Staes

Corinne Lepage Fiona Hall Åsa Westlund Claude Turmes Chris Davies Heidi Hautala Bas Eickhout Sandrine Bélier Lena Ek Linda McAvan Rebecca Harms Kriton Arsenis Yannick Jadot Jo Leinen

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