

Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the European Union

Ms Susanne Szech-Koundouros

Ambassador Deputy Permanent Representative

B – 1040 Brussels, Rue Jacques de Lalaing 8–14

Brussels, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Ambassador Deputy Permanent Representative,

The advanced rechargeable and lithium batteries industry in Europe, as represented by RECHARGE, would like to welcome the incoming German Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Our member companies from across the European battery value chain strongly believe that your Presidency has a vital role to play in strengthening the European economy struck by the global Covid-19 crisis by further driving the green transformation of our economy, and propelling the European Union's 2050 sustainability and industrial leadership roadmaps.

Indeed, your Presidency is marked by a series of international and European events and legislative initiatives that will be pivotal to the achievement of the 2°C Paris Agreement goal, and the innovation and technological leadership agendas of the European Union:

- The Bonn Climate Change Conference decisive for the nationally determined contributions due at COP26;
- Execution of the European Green Deal, and its respective Circular Economy Action Plan, Industrial Strategy and Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability;
- The adaption of the 2030 emission targets to pave the way for the achievement of the 2050 climate-neutrality objective;
- Modernization of the European battery legislation as one cornerstone of the Circular Economy Action Plan;
- Revision of the Directive 2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles towards better incorporation of the significant transformation of the European automotive market.

Thanks to our comprehensive industry representation, RECHARGE can propose a holistic policy program that helps enable European actors to execute on the technological, environmental and social leadership ambitions of the Commission's Strategic Action Plan on Batteries. It will foster the development of a future-ready battery industry in Europe.

With Germany to be an example of European manufacturing and industrial excellence, and – as a matter of fact - a relevant industrial base for some of the most ambitious battery projects in the EU, we count on your Presidency to maintain and further boost the EU's commitment to a green economy led by a decarbonized, high-performing mobility sector and an electricity infrastructure based on renewable energy. Innovative, competitive and sustainable batteries *made in Europe* will remain key to the EU's green transformation.

As one of the strategic sectors of the European Union, our industry is indeed poised to support you in your work program, and we look forward to fruitful cooperation throughout – and beyond – your Presidency.

Sincerely,

Claude Chanson



General Manager RECHARGE

Patrick de Metz

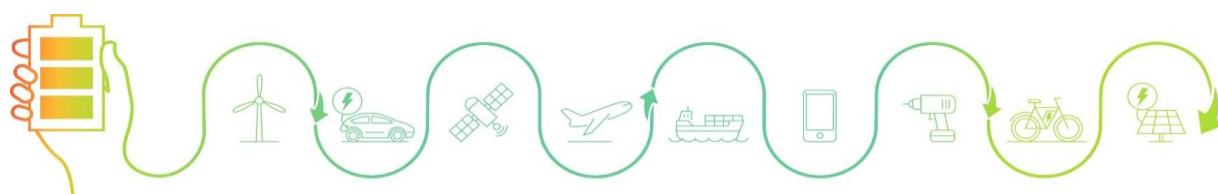


Chairman RECHARGE

Herbert Schein



CEO VARTA



RECHARGE Members: The advanced rechargeable and lithium batteries industry in Europe

