



14 April 2026

Ministry of Climate and Enterprise
Minister for Energy, Business and Industry and
Deputy Prime Minister

Commissioner Dan Jørgensen
Commissioner Wopke Hoekstra

Ministry of Finance
Minister for Finance

Dear Commissioners,

The conflict in the Middle East has disrupted global energy markets and led to rapid price increases for oil and gas, which – if the development is prolonged – risks hampering economic development globally and in Europe. Even with a ceasefire, and even with a permanent opening of the Strait of Hormuz, it will take time for energy flows and energy markets to return to normal.

Continued uncertainty about energy supply and trade flows risk undermining household purchasing power while raising costs for companies and holding back investment and employment, which overall delays economic recovery. The conflict has also damaged essential infrastructure, hindered energy supplies and risks having long-term consequences for the region and the world.

Sweden therefore welcomes that the European Council has called on the Commission to present, without delay, a toolbox of targeted temporary measures to address the recent spikes in the prices of imported fossil fuels arising from the crisis in the Middle East. Sweden stresses the importance of ensuring that the proposed measures remain flexible and voluntary, thereby allowing each Member State to determine the most appropriate measures.

Sweden also welcomes the EUCO conclusions on a flexible approach to domestic congestion income arising from internal bidding zones with consideration to national circumstances.

As this flexibility is still not reflected in the revisions of the Grids Package, currently under negotiation in the Council, Sweden emphasizes the need for greater flexibility in using congestion revenues to finance national measures.

Such flexibility should explicitly enable Member States to accelerate the deployment of fossil-free electricity generation, provide support to consumers affected by high electricity costs, and implement other relevant measures.

As you are aware, this is a highly sensitive matter for Sweden.

Sweden also recalls that the Council has the possibility, after a proposal from the Commission, to grant Member States permission to temporarily lower energy taxes even below the minimum tax levels of the Energy Taxation Directive for special political reasons. Sweden emphasizes the need for promptness in the handling by the Commission of applications from Member States to this effect.

Finally, Sweden underscores the importance of the Commission prioritizing and expediting state aid approvals for new electricity generation as an efficient process is crucial to enabling urgent investments.

We look forward to a continued close dialogue on these matters.

Kind regards,

Ebba Busch
Minister for Energy, Business and
Industry and Deputy Prime Minister

Elisabeth Svantesson
Minister for Finance