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To the Chair of the Committee concerned

Dear Colleague,

In the framework of the parliamentary dimension of the Lithuanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union we are pleased to inform you that the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) of the European Parliament and the Committee on Economics of the *Seimas* of the Republic of Lithuania are organising a Joint Committee Meeting on "***The EU Internal Energy Market for the 21st Century***" with the participation of Members from National Parliaments on Tuesday, 17 December 2013, from 10.00 to 17.30, in the premises of the European Parliament in Brussels.

Europe's energy policy is facing several challenges today. We have to ensure affordable and secure supplies for both European consumers and industry while at the same time reducing our carbon emissions. To achieve these goals the EU will need an internal energy market that operates efficiently, which is not the case yet. Investments in the energy sector are lacking, energy prices remain relatively high while economically rational investments in energy efficiency are not being made. To bring about a transition to a low-carbon economy and ensure affordable and secure energy supplies more attention needs to be given to further opening up of the EU's internal energy market, improvement of competition and full integration of Europe's energy networks and systems.

It is thus our pleasure to invite up to four Members from the relevant Committees of your Parliament (two from each chamber for bicameral National Parliaments) to participate in the Joint Committee Meeting and up to two accompanying civil servants. The Parliaments of the European Union candidate countries and EFTA members are invited to send up to two members as observers and one accompanying civil servant.

Please find enclosed the draft programme. The final programme and more detailed practical information about the meeting will be shortly forwarded to your Parliament's staff, responsible for relations with the European Parliament.

We sincerely hope that you will accept our invitation and look forward to welcoming you to the European Parliament.

Yours sincerely,



**Amalia Sartori**

Chair of the Committee on  
Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)  
of the European Parliament



**Remigijus Žemaitaitis**

Chair of the Committee on  
Economics of the *Seimas* of  
the Republic of Lithuania

Enclosure