

A Coal Platform to support Clean Energy for All Europeans

Brussels (5 October 2017) – EURACOAL welcomes the European Commission’s proposal to tackle issues relating to the structural changes taking place in the coal regions with targeted European platforms involving industry. In this respect, the concept paper being developed by the Directorate-General for Energy can provide the Commission with good advice on how to share best practices and use existing financial instruments (*e.g.* the European structural and investment Funds, the EU Framework Programmes for RTD, the Research Fund for Coal and Steel and the Innovation Fund under the EU ETS).

During its work on such platforms, it will be important that the Directorate-General for Energy supports the structural changes in the coal regions brought about by climate and energy policy, as well as the necessary technological changes in those regions that expect to continue to use coal in the longer term. EURACOAL and its members will promote both these change processes with environmentally compatible clean coal projects and concepts for the future development of the regions.

To demonstrate commitment, EURACOAL and its partners have submitted an accompanying measures proposal to the Research Fund for Coal and Steel for a technology network on European coal research in light of EU policy objectives to 2050 and future global trends in coal use.

Note for editors:

- The European Association for Coal and Lignite (EURACOAL) represents the interests of coal producers, coal importers and coal users in Brussels. The Association has 31 members from eighteen countries. EURACOAL publishes regular market reports and *Coal industry across Europe*, a detailed review of the European coal industry with insights into the technological developments that will allow coal to support the energy transition (www.euracoal.eu).

Contact:

Brian Ricketts, Secretary-General, EURACOAL, mobile +44 7804 646620, ricketts@euracoal.org