



Mr. Donald Tusk  
Prime Minister of Poland

## **An open letter on Poland's position concerning the EU Roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050**

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

With regard to the meeting of the European Union Council for Environment, which will be held on 9th of March, and will include a discussion on "A Roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050", we would like to ask you not to block EU's acceptance for taking a more ambitious targets in GHG reduction.

Stopping climate changes caused by humans is the biggest ecological and political challenge of the XXI century. Studies show that over 90% of Poles agrees with the results of science researches saying that it is men who's responsible for climate changes. 2/3 of Poles think that Polish government is responsible for counteracting them! This responsibility is well understood by the most of European leaders taking actions on reducing GHG in their own countries. – This is an attitude expected from you by the Polish society.

During the preparation of the Roadmap the European Commission was concerned not only about the world climate protection. In fight over the climate Europe sees a huge chance for dynamic economic development, increase in competitiveness, innovation in our businesses on the international market and health protection. Cutting off from suggested policy can cause establishing a "Europe of two speeds" against which you fought so decidedly during the negotiations over the EU fiscal packet.

Rejecting "A Roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050" would be even more unintelligible if we consider the fact that climate protection also means measurable benefits for society, economy and environment. This is an opportunity to develop innovative technologies, modernize energetic infrastructure and to create a small and medium businesses and therefore hundreds of thousands new and lasting workplaces. It is also an opportunity to improve energy security by granting independence from importing energy resources. Business needs predictable policy framework, which can be provided by the Roadmap.

Growing number of studies shows that a more ambitious reduction targets will bring additional economic growth in Europe, including Poland. According to the European Commission's report

published at the end of January 2012, Poland's financial condition will improve with reducing GHG above the 20% until 2020.

Our country has an access to various methods that support building low-carbon economy. Based on estimations, Poland will gain around 4,6 billion euro until 2020 from selling emission allowances within the EU ETS System. Furthermore, European Commission proposes to devote 20% of Cohesion Fund budget for actions connected with building the low-carbon economy. Negotiations over the new financial frameworks will last until the end of 2012, simultaneously with works on adopting Roadmap. It is in Poland best interest to link both of these issues and open to talk about increasing target reductions and negotiate bigger support for its realization in our country.

In our opinion, blocking the conclusion of EU Council on "A Roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050" would be harmful for Poland's both economical and political interests and also contradictory to the society's views and environment. We think acting this way will be a great political mistake to which – in our actual economic situation - your government cannot allow to happen.

In the name of the organisations of the Polish Climate Coalition,

Yours sincerely,



Expert of the Climate Coalition  
President of the Board  
of the Polish Ecological Club Mazovian Branch  
Secretariat of the Climate Coalition

**Climate Coalition** is an association of 22 nongovernmental organisations, mainly environmental ones. Its mission is a joint action to prevent human induced climate change, for the benefit of humanity and environment. More information about the Coalition can be found on the website: <http://koalicjaklimatyczna.org/lang/ang/>

