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To the
Commission of the European Communities (Attn: Secretary-General)
Rue de la Loi, 200
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium

Barcelona, January 9th, 2015

Subject: Decision on "Support SA.34947" – State Aid for Hinkley Point C

Dear Secretary General,

With its Support SA.34947 decision adopted on 8 October 2014, the European Commission has approved state subsidies for a new nuclear power station at Hinkley Point, United Kingdom. The British government intends to issue state guarantees worth over €21 billion to the EDF operating entity for the construction of this nuclear power station. What is even more worrying, though, is the guaranteed feed-in price for generated nuclear power: right from the outset, this guaranteed remuneration would amount to about 11 eurocents per kilowatt hour – to be paid for a 35-year period, adjusted for inflation on an annual basis. According to calculations performed by the Financial Times, the guaranteed payment would thus increase to 35 eurocents per kilowatt hour by the end of the above period.

It is only such subsidies that enable the construction of otherwise unviable nuclear reactors: even 60 years after the beginning of its civilian use, nuclear power continues to be commercially unviable. Yet it is not just the excessive cost that European citizens have to shoulder but also the enormous hazards associated with this high-risk technology, as well as the unsolvable issue of nuclear waste disposal. At the same time, granting of these subsidies puts the renewable energy sector – as the climate- and consumer-friendly alternative – at a massive disadvantage and severely obstructs its continued expansion.

As a citizen of the European Union, I am not prepared to accept this decision. This is why I am joining the complaint lodged by Elektrizitätswerke Schönau Vertriebs GmbH on 28 November 2014 and urge you to revoke your decision on Support SA.34947.

Yours sincerely,

Grup de Científics i Tècnics per un Futur No Nuclear

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