For the attention of:

Ursula von der Leyen, Commission President,
Barbara Pompili, Presidency of the Council of the EU and Minister for Ecology, Sustainable
development and Energy.

Copies:

Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans,
Executive Vice-President Dombrovskis,
Executive Vice-President Vestager,

Commissioner Simson,
Commissioner Breton,
Commissioner Sinkevičius,
Commissioner Vălean,

Director-General Juul Jørgensen, Director-General Petriccione, Director-General Jorna,
Director-General Hololei, Director-General Fink-Hooijer,

11 April 2022

The need for an EU strategy for geothermal energy

Dear Commission President Von Der Leyen

Europe rests on an unlimited treasure-trove of geothermal energy providing permanent
supplies of renewable heating, cooling, power as well as sustainably sourced lithium and other
raw materials, everywhere.

Both the International Energy Agency and ADEME - the French energy agency - found it to be
the most cost-effective solution for heating wherever it is used. Yet it remains underdeveloped
and often out of sight for EU policy makers. This situation must change now. Especially given
the urgent need for a rapid energy transition maximising use of local resources.

Therefore, we call on you to prepare and issue Europe’s strategy on geothermal
energy and sustainable raw materials extraction, by 2023. The purpose of the
strategy is to unlock geothermal energy’s potential as a major renewable energy source across
the internal market and neighbouring countries. This should focus on identifying barriers,
proposing measures to accelerate deployment, the efficient maintenance of high
environmental standards, de-risking of private investments, sustainable mineral extraction
and crowding-in financing to frontload a pipeline of projects that will deliver on the EU’s new
2030 climate and energy targets, the REpowerEU plan as well as carbon neutrality by 2050.

We look forward to working with you to deliver this.

Yours sincerely