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DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY

Acting Deputy Director-General Coordination of Directorates D and E

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Mr Steven B. Krivit
Publisher and Senior Editor
New Energy Times
369-B Third Street | Suite 556 | San Rafael,
California | USA 94901

Subject: Improved ITER Power Claims by European Commission

Dear Mr Krivit,

Thank you for your email of 29 May addressed to President Von der Leyen. Your message has received full attention by the office of the President and has been forwarded to my services for follow-up.

It is indeed important to address the issue of the overall power balance of fusion reactors in a correct way. We should not spread the idea in the public that ITER will produce significant amounts of power as it is not the overall objective of the project.

As you know, ITER is not designed for and will never produce any electric power. It should produce 500 MW of thermal power. The issue you raise concerns the economic feasibility of fusion energy, and the production of a net positive power balance by a magnetically confined plasma. This issue will be addressed by subsequent projects such as the EU's DEMO.

In the document "Road to fusion" there is no confusion in this regard. In the sentence "ITER's goal is to prove that fusion power devices can feasibly produce energy that could be converted into electricity" the word "produce" is used in its meaning "induce/initiate", or in other words "create/release". The next sentence clearly states that "ITER will be a purely experimental facility that **will not produce** electricity". Having said that, we will replace the word "produce" in the first sentence to rule out any potential ambiguity.

Thank you for drawing our attention to this formulation.

Yours faithfully,

[e-signed]

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