

Europacable calls for the inclusion of power and communication cables as enabling technologies in the Delegated Acts for European Taxonomy: cables are essential for Europe's energy independence and decarbonisation and must be taken into account by the European Taxonomy.

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Europacable urges the European Commission to take the adequate steps in the upcoming Delegated Acts to guarantee that electric equipment manufacturing, and in particular cables which are essential for Europe's energy independence and decarbonisation, is taken into account by the European Taxonomy. Europacable believes that the categories proposed by the Platform on Sustainable Finance do not adequately address the enabling potential of power and communication cables.

Europacable is committed to empower Europe's electrification and digitalization: a European-based production of power and communication cables will be key to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 as well as the 2030 connectivity targets. Cables are and will become an ever more strategic infrastructure technology both for energy security and digital resilience. Today, Europe's cable manufacturers are global technology leaders, supplying Europe's operators with high quality and cutting-edge power and telecommunication cables and systems.

Not including power and telecommunication cables would lead to an inconsistent development of the European networks and grids, focusing only on eligible electrical equipment while disregarding the role of cables and wires on the path towards decarbonisation. Additionally, this would divert from a clear, fair and transparent offer from the industry, in- and outside the EU. Finally, it would put at risk the European manufacturing basis of cables, and hence result in an unacceptable dependence of the Union on foreign imports of this critical infrastructure technology.

Europacable fully supports the ambitions of the European Taxonomy. The Association is working actively at establishing a common interpretation of the cables, eligible and aligned with the Sustainable Finance Regulation, for all member companies to apply. As a first step, information was provided regarding eligibility of wire and cable products for the objectives related to climate change mitigation.

In particular, Europacable would like to draw the attention of the European Commission on the following:

1. Climate Mitigation Delegated Act:

- The supply of electric cables, which are critical enablers of decarbonisation and energy independence, is not explicitly considered as eligible in the European Taxonomy (eligible activity 4.9 dealing with transmission and distribution of electricity and only covering construction and operations of those systems).

=> Europacable recommends that category 4.9 also include electrical equipment that are necessary for grid installation.

2. Preparation of upcoming Delegated Acts (based on TWG report of March 2022):
- The Climate Mitigation Objective does not currently include the manufacture of electrical equipment in the list of eligible activities.
 - ⇒ ***Europacable recommends including the following activity “Manufacture of high, medium and low voltage electrical equipment that result in or enable substantial contribution to climate change mitigation” as those products are key enablers for Europe to reach both its 2030 climate targets and carbon neutrality through electrification and integration of renewable electricity sources.***
 - The final report from the Platform on Sustainable Finance on the Circular Economy Objective does not mention the “Manufacture of durable electrical and electronic equipment”. Ensuring a longer lifetime of electrical equipment is key to preserve resources and guarantee the durability of the electrical networks.
 - ⇒ ***Europacable suggests that the European Commission includes a clear reference to “Manufacture of durable electrical and electronic equipment” in the Delegated Acts to be adopted.***

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About Europacable

Europacable AISBL is the voice of all leading European wire and cable producers. Europacable members include the largest cable makers in the world providing global technology leadership, as well as highly specialized small- and medium sized businesses from across Europe. Globally our members employ over 80.000 people of which more than 50% in Europe generating a worldwide turnover over € 70 billion in 2021. The product scope of our members covers the full range of energy and communication cables. Europacable is listed in the European Commission's transparency register under 453103789-92. We are a partner of CENELEC. www.europacable.eu