

International Energy Systems in Transition  
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**Abstract Format**

**Title: Policy and Societal Framework for Energy Sustainability**

Alf Henryk WULF  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, ALSTOM Power AG  
Berlin, Germany

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**Abstract**

It is essential to develop a pragmatic energy strategy that balances climate protection frameworks, EU or German energy policies, and economic competitiveness – all factors of the so-called “energy trilemma.” Indeed, an appropriate policy and societal framework requires that decision-makers reconcile the world’s growing energy appetite and supply security challenges with climate change mitigation goals. After all, coping with climate change involves not only new investments in cleaner energy sources, but also addressing high emission assets that are already in place and that are pivotal to energy security and economic development. In other words, renewable energy and clean coal technologies are not mutually exclusive.

Consequently, policymakers need to develop an approach that sets ambitious climate change mitigation goals, but also recognizes technical, economic, and geopolitical realities. Governments must remain cognizant of supply security considerations such as the volatility of current renewable energy sources. Likewise, European countries in particular are largely dependent on imports from oftentimes geopolitically unstable sources. Moreover, even with further expansion of renewables, fossil fuels like coal remain the most viable option to enable economic growth and meet growing demand for energy in the near future.

In this context, ALSTOM remains a strong and committed partner and is working on the energy technologies that will make a difference in global climate efforts. We intend to lead and contribute to the conversation by example and with pragmatic and sustainable solutions. We are therefore developing the technology energy efficiency solutions that would, for example, contribute to a 30 percent drop in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Europe by replacing old coal power plants. ALSTOM and other players in the European and German energy markets are well-positioned to share this technology with the world, thereby achieving real reductions in global emissions and gaining a competitive advantage for European industry and manufacturing.