Febeliec answer to the Elia consultation on the procurement process for the reactive power service

Febeliec would like to thank Elia for its consultation on the procurement process for the reactive power service for the contract period 2025-2026.

Febeliec at first view has no objections to the proposed approach for the procurement process, but insists that participation remains voluntary for consumers and in particular their demand facilities, as their primary goal is not being active in the power market and as such cannot be obliged to alleviate grid concerns for Elia at the detriment of their own processes and operations and potentially even the security of those. Febeliec thus strongly insists that also no additional burden would be placed on them to provide any justification for non-participation.

Febeliec represents corporate energy consumers in Belgium for whom energy is a significant component of production costs and a key factor of competitiveness. Febeliec strives for competitive prices for electricity and natural gas for its members, and for more security of energy supply in the context of the energy transition. Febeliec's members are 5 sector federations and more than 40 companies from various sectors (chemistry and life sciences, petroleum products, glass, pulp & paper and cardboard, mining, textiles and wood processing, brick, non-ferrous metals, steel, transportation, construction materials, data centers, telecommunications). Together they represent some 80% of industrial electricity and natural gas consumption in Belgium and 225.000 jobs (<u>www.febeliec.be</u>).