Clean Industrial Deal: a positive step towards electrification, but who will implement it?

Brussels, 26 February 2025 – EuropeOn, the European association of electrical contractors, welcomes the **Clean Industrial Deal's** commitment to **electrification** with a 32% electrification KPI by 2030 and to **skills development**. However, the plan **overlooks workforce shortages**, failing to ensure that Europe has enough qualified professionals to install and integrate clean technologies necessary for the electrification, decarbonisation and competitiveness of industries and companies in Europe.

Key takeaways:

- Including a clear 32% electrification KPI by 2030 (against 21.3% currently) is a strong
 move in the right direction. Along with the proposed actions on grids, taxation and
 affordability, this KPI provides companies with more confidence to invest in their assets
 and workforce.
- While the Clean Industrial Deal soundly recognises the need to address skills shortages
 by including a dedicated pillar, it fails to identify the root problem: workforce
 shortages. As explained in EuropeOn's Manifesto¹, without enough workers, upskilling
 and reskilling efforts won't be enough to implement the provisions included in the
 Clean Industrial Deal.

"Electricians are essential to deploy clean technologies, yet at least 16 European countries² already face shortages of these key professionals. The same is true with nurses, for which the European Commission recently announced a specific action³. We call for a similar initiative to support the electrical sector and secure the success of the Clean Industrial Deal" said Julie Beaufils, EuropeOn Secretary General.

<u>EuropeOn</u> is the European voice of the electrical contracting industry. Europe is home to about 2.7 million electrical professionals, employed by 420,000 businesses and generating over €300 billions of annual turnover. Together, they are making the green and digital transitions concretely happen in every parts of Europe, by helping end-users access services and technologies that run on clean and efficient electricity.

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¹ https://europe-on.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2024-Manifesto.pdf

² European Labour Authority Report (2024): https://www.ela.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2024-05/EURES-Shortages_Report-V8.pdf

³ https://health.ec.europa.eu/latest-updates/launch-first-eu-action-address-nurse-shortages-shows-positive-impact-european-health-union-2025-01-17_en