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Answer given by Mr Hoekstra  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(4.11.2025)

The initiative of the Industrial Decarbonisation Bank announced in the Clean Industrial Deal<sup>1</sup> Communication will aim to fund with EUR 100 billion the deployment of decarbonised technologies in industry. The goal of the Industrial Decarbonisation Bank will be to support the transformation of energy intensive industry in Europe, including the chemical industry, beyond early-mover projects.

The Industrial Decarbonisation Bank will be proposed as part of the upcoming EU Emissions Trading System review. However, already at the end of 2025, the Commission will under the Innovation Fund open a pilot auction for decarbonisation of industrial process heat (via electrification or geothermal, solar thermal solutions), where all industrial sectors will be eligible and carbon abatement will be the metric for providing support.

It should be noted that the EU emissions trading system already recognises competitive challenges from extra-EU countries by providing sectors facing this ‘carbon leakage risk’ a higher share of free allowances compared to other industrial installations. The EU soda ash producers belong to this group of sectors having their competitiveness supported.

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<sup>1</sup> COM(2025) 85 final.