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1. Reducing Germany's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 30 percent until 2020 (base year 1990) is an ambitious goal. Yet it can be achieved in an economically sound way.
2. Reducing the emissions by 40 percent until 2020 while adhering to the phase-out of nuclear energy is economically unreasonable, and will compromise our economic wealth.
3. The overall reduction potential can only be realised if many single levers are applied: There is not one technology that could serve as a „silver bullet“. The kind of levers and the costs for the decision-makers vary greatly from sector to sector. Each sector is capable of contributing, and abatement levers must be applied in each sector to realise the full overall abatement potential.
4. An increase of Germany's GHG emissions by 2.2 percent (2004-2020) would result if investments were replaced with State of the Art-technologies and no other measures were taken. This is an enormous challenge already considering the concomitant economic growth of 1.6 percent per year in Germany with its industries having to face fierce international competition. German business provides the key technologies for both its own sector and sectors like housing and transport.

Political Conclusions 2/2

5. BDI's Climate Study assesses more than 300 technologies all of which represent currently discussed technological approaches likely to be realised in the not too distant future. Quality of life, economic growth and the industry structure in Germany will not be impaired through their implementation following the usual investment cycles.
6. As of today Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) does not represent a reliable option. Only after 2020 can CCS contribute to the abatement of GHG emissions, and only after the legal, economic, technological and political questions connected with CCS technologies will have been resolved. Apart from CCS further new technologies are expected to become available in the future, and even technological quantum leaps should not be ruled out.
7. If deployed world-wide our technologies will achieve the best possible leverage with respect to reducing GHG emissions. It is however necessary to apply these innovative technologies in Germany in a sensible and economically viable manner to convince others that our solutions will work. This will also help pave the way towards a truly international post-2012 climate regime.