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Minister

Svenja Schulze

c/o Federal Ministry for

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Conservation of environmental resources

Possible savings of billions of euros for operators of all systems operated with chains

My letters of 8 April 2019 and 29 May 2019 to the Ministry of Economy, Minister Peter Altmaier

Dear Minister,

I would like to draw your attention to a patent that I have developed that could **save BETREIBER billions of euros on all chain-operated systems** and that would **conserve a considerable amount of environmental resources** if it were used, since conveyor chains, drive chains, etc. would only have to be replaced at much shorter intervals.

As you can imagine, both chain manufacturers and companies that sell chains as spare parts are not particularly enthusiastic about this idea.

Beneficiaries of this invention are the ENVIRONMENT and the many operators of such plants.

In order to avoid repetitions, I send you attached copies of my letter of 8.4.2019 to the Minister of Economy Peter Altmaier, in whose home town two of these sprockets have been working in a portal scraper of a power plant since

19.4.2001, that is today (11.6.2019) the **6.628 operating day** without failure, and that with one and the same chain.

As far as I know, there has never been such a case that a chain has not had to be changed once over such a long period of time, now more than 18 years, and thus of course considerable environmental resources could be saved and **this one operator could save considerable costs**, since the production of chains is connected with a considerable effort.

This power station in Ensdorf was shut down some time ago, the only thing that still works there is the portal scraper with the two sprockets I invented.

WHAT ABOUT THE MANY, MANY OTHER OPERATORS OF CHAIN OPERATED EQUIPMENT AND HOW COULD OUR ENVIRONMENT AT LEAST BE PROTECTED?

I re-applied the patent I have been working on since 1993 in an improved form in November 2011 and since then I have made this "self-adjusting sprocket", which has been patented since 2015, known worldwide.

Actually, one should of course assume that the operators would "run a storm" in order to be able to enjoy such sprockets as well.

But how is that in this world?

"The average person always waits for something to happen, instead of going to work for something to happen."

Now this saying is easier said than done in this case. I keep getting requests from operators where to buy these sprockets. The operators themselves are usually not in a position to do this. They are as powerless as the many owners of diesel vehicles.

And here I think the manufacturers of chains are in demand.

This could save **huge amounts of resources**, just think of the fact that with large chains

- the chain links are heated to 1,250°C when the induction furnace spits them out during production,
- only special steel is used in the production process,

- the steel is hardened at 900°C, etc.

All details about this "self-adjusting sprocket" can be found on my homepage at: www.selbsteinstellendes-kettenrad.com.

Perhaps this patent will be of interest to the Ministry of the Environment, since our society has changed its thinking in the meantime. Just think of "Fridays for Future" and it is no longer acceptable that a small group of manufacturers only think about their own advantages. If everyone thought like that, there would never have been any progress.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Since I think that this topic could also be of interest for other federal states or their environment ministers, I take the liberty of including them in the distribution list of this letter.

I am very curious about your reaction and of course I am also waiting for the answer of the Minister of Economic Affairs.

For today, I remain

kind regards

Karl Herkenrath

Attachment: Distribution list of this letter

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