

15<sup>th</sup> November, 2018

## Dear Athletes,

It is with deep regret and personal sadness that I am writing this message to you. Due to the unjustified continued attacks on ISL and the Italian Swimming Federation from Fina, we hereby give you notice of the intention to postpone the 'Energy for Swim' competition in Torino on 20/21 December 2018.

This is not a decision that has been taken without great regret, but the continued threat by Fina of potential future disqualification and sanctions for you the athletes, combined with an unwillingness to engage in meaningful dialog, has left the Organizers with no other honorable option but to reluctantly postpone the competition.

The Energy Standard Group, as key sponsor of the ISL project, has always put the values of the athlete at the forefront of our priorities and we will not accept any risk put upon you by Fina. As a show of our gratitude for your outstanding support, we will honor 50% of your agreed appearance fee, which you will receive shortly.

What has become evident over the past few weeks is that Fina has embarked on a sustained program of self-serving tactics to try to destroy our efforts to create a new global competitive league. We note in this connection that approach taken by FINA violates European Union and American untitrust and unfair competition laws, and we will use all the legal means available to protect our interests, the interests of athletes and the sport of swimming in general. The League will raise the commercial value of our great sport and reward you, the worlds most gifted athletes, with a clear path to more top-level competition and deserved financial rewards.

Rest assured that despite the challenges and obstacles that have been put in our way, we remain more motivated than ever to provide you, as our true partners, a platform where you can showcase your talent on a regular basis. Our ambitious plans for 2019 remain undiminished.

I believe the era of athlete exploitation must end and no athlete should feel threatened in this way ever again. You deserve better than what you have now.

With Best wishes,

Konstantin Grigorishin President, Energy Standard Group Head of Advisory Board, ISL