



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY

Directorate C – Green Transition and Energy System Integration
C.2 – Decarbonisation and Sustainability of Energy Sources

Brussels, 20/06/2022
ENER.C.2/MM/svh (2022)4501939

*By registered letter with
acknowledgment of receipt*

Mr Enrico Donda
Food and water action Europe

Rue d'Edimbourg, 26
1050-Brussels
Belgium

Advance copy by email :
ask+request-10261-d249c797@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your request for access to documents - Ref GESTDEM 2021/7297

Dear Mr Donda,

I refer to your request of 24 November 2021 for access to Commission documents, registered the same day under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to:

“All documentation from 1 January 2020 up to date, including but not limited to correspondence to and from all officials from DG ENER (including cabinet members +/- or officials) as well as minutes, summaries and logs of online and in-person meetings, related to the consideration of extending measures in the upcoming proposal for an EU Methane Regulation across the supply chain to cover all oil and gas consumed in the EU, imports included. This includes measures on monitoring, reporting, verification (MRV), leak detection and repair (LDAR) and restrictions on routine venting and flaring (BRVF). In responding to this request, the Commission need not provide that information which was submitted during public consultation and then subsequently made publicly available on the following portal”

Documents concerned

Your application concerns the following documents:

Accessible documents (subject to redaction of personal data)

- (1) Inter-Service group meeting on draft IA for energy-related methane legislative proposal Wednesday 16 June 2021– minutes

- (2) 1st ISG meeting on legislative proposals to reduce methane emissions in the energy sector (07.12.2020) - minutes
- (3) IS consultation on legislative proposal 12.11.2021 Final - minutes
- (4) Preferred options in the impact assessment of the methane policy proposals - Note to the attention of Mr Stefano Grassi, Head of Cabinet To Commissioner Kadri Simson – 29.05.2021
- (5) Methane initiative – choice of legal instrument, list of measures and timeline for adoption – Note to the attention of Mr Stefano Grassi, Head of Cabinet To Commissioner Kadri Simson – 23.09.2021
- (6) Policy options in the impact assessment of the methane policy proposals – Note to the attention of Mr Stefano Grassi, Head of Cabinet To Commissioner Kadri Simson

I am glad to inform you that documents 1 to 6 listed above can be made accessible to you, subject only to redaction of personal data. Please find enclosed redacted copies of these documents.

A complete disclosure of the identified documents is prevented by the exception concerning the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual outlined in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to documents, because they contain the following personal data:

- the names/initials and contact information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management;
- the names/initials and contact details of other natural persons;
- handwritten signatures/abbreviated signatures of natural persons;
- the contact information of United Nations Environment Programme and Environmental Defense Fund representatives;
- other information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person.

Article 9(1)(b) of the Data Protection Regulation¹ does not allow the transmission of these personal data, except if you prove that it is necessary to have the data transmitted to you for a specific purpose in the public interest and where there is no reason to assume that the legitimate interests of the data subject might be prejudiced. In your request, you do not express any particular interest to have access to these personal data nor do you put forward arguments to establish the necessity to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest.

Consequently, I conclude that, pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access cannot be granted to the personal data contained in the requested documents, as the need to obtain access thereto for a purpose in the public interest has not

¹ Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC, OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39.

been substantiated and there is no reason to think that the legitimate interests of the individuals concerned would not be prejudiced by disclosure of the personal data concerned.

Disclaimers:

You may reuse public documents, which have been produced by the European Commission or by public and private entities on its behalf based on the [Commission Decision on the reuse of Commission documents](#). You may reuse the documents disclosed free of charge and for non-commercial and commercial purposes provided that the source is acknowledged and that you do not distort the original meaning or message of the documents. Please note that the Commission does not assume liability stemming from the reuse.

Please note that a number of these documents are preliminary drafts, which do not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such.

Please note that documents originating from third parties are disclosed to you based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. However, this disclosure is without prejudice to the rules on intellectual property, which may limit your right to reproduce or exploit the released documents without the agreement of the originator, who may hold an intellectual property right on them. The European Commission does not assume any responsibility from their reuse.

Means of redress

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, you are entitled to make a confirmatory application requesting the Commission to review this position.

Such a confirmatory application should be addressed within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Secretariat-General
Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1)
BERL 7/076

B-1049 Bruxelles

or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,

Kitti NYITRAI
Head of Unit