Brussels CLIMA

Ines Urman 1 Long Lane SE1 4PG, London United Kingdom

Advance copy by email: ask+request-12605-357e0b8a@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents EASE 2023/1089

Dear Ms Urman,

We refer to your request for access to European Commission documents registered on 16 February 2023 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to:

All documentation (including but not limited to all email correspondence, attendance lists, agendas, background papers, transcripts, recordings and minutes/notes) relating to the meeting listed below:

- 1. Meeting between Vestas Wind Systems and Executive Vice-President, Frans Timmermans, on 30/06/2022;
- 2. Meeting between Vestas Wind Systems and Executive Vice-President, Frans Timmermans, on 09/06/2022
- 3. Meeting between Rockwool and Cabinet member of Miguel Arias Cañete, Isaac Valero Ladron, on 13/04/2018;
- 4. Meeting between Rockwool and Cabinet member of Frans Timmermans, Riccardo Maggi and Diederik Samsom, on 04/05/2020;
- 5. Meeting between Rockwool and Cabinet member of Frans Timmermans, Riccardo Maggi and Diederik Samsom. on 11/05/2021.

Your application concerns the following documents:

	Title	Date	Reference
1	Video conference_Eurima paper on Renovation Wave_Minimum energy performance standards_redacted	16/04/2020	Ares(2020)2087177
2	Meeting request ROCKWOOL insulation Brussels 11.05.2021_redacted	08/03/2023	Ares(2023)1689373

In response to points 4 and 5 of your application, and with regard to the documents listed above, 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, 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.

Article 9(1)(b) of the Data Protection Regulation 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 any 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 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.

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.

Regarding points 1, 2 and 3 of your application, having examined your request for documents under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2011 regarding public access to documents, I regret to inform you that DG CLIMA does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description given in your application.

The Cabinet of Executive Vice President Frans Timmermans and the Archives Service of the Commission carried out a thorough research, yet no document has been identified for the meetings between Vestas Wind Systems and Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans, and Cabinet member of Miguel Arias Cañete, Isaac Valero Ladron.

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the right of access as defined in that regulation applies only to existing documents in the possession of the institution. Given that no such documents, corresponding to the description given in your application, are held by the Commission, DG CLIMA is not in a position to fulfil your request.

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

Such a confirmatory application should be addressed to the Secretariat-General of the Commission within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter. You can submit it in one of the following ways:

by asking for a review via your portal<sup>1</sup> account (available only for initial requests submitted via the portal account),

## or by mail:

**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,

Kurt Vandenberghe Director-General

<sup>1</sup> https://www.ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-request