



Miguel ARIAS CAÑETE
Member of the European Commission

Brussels, 07. 10. 2019

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for the letter you sent on 31 July 2019. Let me thank you for the work that you and your team have been putting into addressing mitigation of short-lived climate pollutants. The Commission supports this work through our engagement in the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC). I explicitly welcome your focus on methane from oil and gas, and I believe more mitigation efforts in this sector globally are both possible and urgently needed.

I agree with your objective to reduce methane emissions from oil and gas, and note that the EU already regulates these emissions in the context of its legislation that defines national greenhouse gas emission reductions targets up to 2030 for the sectors outside the EU Emission Trading System.

In addition, my services are continuing to look into possible measures to reduce emissions in this sector and we recognise that there is significant remaining reduction potential. Improving reporting on methane emissions across all hydrocarbon industries can only help in this endeavour. In that regard, as part of our specific contribution to the Global Alliance, we are committed to the Oil and Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP) in cooperation with UNEP, EDF and the oil and gas industry to further improve the process and define a 'gold standard' in reporting for companies. We are working towards the extension of such reporting to include also methane emissions from coal, as well as promote OGMP membership to cover a wider circle of governments and a more significant portion of the energy sector. We also dedicate human and financial resources to support the Global Methane Studies to fill the gap in scientific knowledge around real methane emissions from the energy sector.



We also intend to raise awareness about the urgent need to tackle methane emissions in the energy sector at COP25.

We would also want to establish a regular and consistent agenda of meetings in Paris to maintain momentum on this important file.

I am pleased to continue to work with CCAC, and in this context, with the Alliance to support countries to pursue their methane emission reduction targets, sharing of knowledge, technologies and best management practices.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mr. [unclear]', written over a light blue horizontal line.