

SAELENS Karen (CAB-VON DER LEYEN)

From: VANDENBERGHE Kurt (CAB-VON DER LEYEN)
Sent: jeudi 30 janvier 2020 18:33
To: GRASSI Stefano (CAB-SIMSON); CHAPUIS Laure (CAB-SIMSON)
Cc: RISO Stephanie (CAB-VON DER LEYEN); SMITH Olivier (CAB-VON DER LEYEN); NELEN Sarah (CAB-TIMMERMANS); SAELENS Karen (CAB-VON DER LEYEN)
Subject: Meeting with International Oil and Gas Producers - 30 January 2020

Dear Stefano and Laure,

I met yesterday, at their request, with [REDACTED] of the IOGP.

The main issues raised were:

- Role of CCS/CCU, which according to science (IPCC), will be a necessary ingredient of any strategy for limiting global warming to below 2°. The visitors showed a map with about 18 CCS projects underway across Europe. These are all at the R&D stage only. They detect a lack of interest on the part of Commission services and would like to see initiatives like the Battery Alliance for CCS/CCU. They argue that the Commission should be much more demanding towards industry for investing in CCS/CCU. While acknowledging the role of CCS/CCU, I referred to the risk of moral hazard (letting down on mitigation efforts and using it as a pretext to protect existing markets).
- IOGP is very eager to participate in and contribute to all relevant public consultations and impact assessments. It wants to be a constructive partner for the Green Deal.
- The importance of hydrogen, but doubts on the scalability in the near to mid-term future of green hydrogen. They would prefer a focus on clean or low-carbon hydrogen. They mentioned a study currently being funded by IOGP, with Hydrogen Europe, on the potential of hydrogen in Europe.
- IOGP argues in favour of not going for a policy that favours certain types of fuels or gases but that rather goes for a trajectory of increasingly demanding carbon intensity targets (which would ensure neutrality on the precise gas mix).
- They enquired about our intentions for decarbonised gas, but I did not go into details on that.

I copy this to debrief to you as they said they will be meeting with you in February and I copy to Stéphanie, whom they had requested to meet as well.

Best,
Kurt