Brussels regio.ddg.d.1(2020)7751096/GB

Dear Sir,

Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2020/6294

We refer to your e-mail of 20 October 2020 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 21 October 2020 under the above-mentioned reference number.

As already communicated to you with our e-mail of 9 November 2020, we regret to inform you that the Commission does not hold the contractual documents of the Interreg project 'REMIX - Smart and Green Mining Regions of EU' that you requested in your application.

This project has been co-financed by the Interreg Europe programme (https://www.interregeurope.eu/remix/).

Like all the programmes of the European Structural and Investment (ESI) funds, Interreg Europe is implemented in shared management by the EU Member States. The authority responsible for managing the Interreg Europe programme ('managing authority') on behalf of the participating partner countries (all the EU Member States, plus Switzerland and Norway) is the Hauts-de-France Regional Council in France. The managing authority signs the subsidy contracts ('grant agreements') with the selected projects on behalf of the programme.

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, the Commission is not in a position to fulfil your request.

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.

By e-mail with acknowledgement of receipt

Mr Nik Völker, MiningWatch Portugal

E-mail: ask+request-8677-529cb4a0@asktheeu.org

Such a confirmatory application should be addressed within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretariat-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 Brussels

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

In light of the above, I kindly invite you to address your request to the Joint Secretariat of the Interreg Europe programme at the address provided below or by writing to the Programme Director Mr Erwin Siweris (E.SIWERIS@interregeurope.eu).

Interreg Europe Joint Secretariat

Les Arcuriales, Entrée D, 5e étage

45 rue de Tournai, 59000 Lille, France

You are kindly invited to acknowledge receipt of this e-mail. Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Marc LEMAITRE

c.c.: REGIO-ACCES-DOCUMENTS@ec.europa.eu;

REGIO-TRANSNATIONAL-AND-INTERREGIONAL-COOPERATION@ec.europa.eu