



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY

Directorate C - Green Transition and Energy System Integration  
C.3 - Internal Energy Market

Brussels, 10/06/2021  
ENER/C3/EL/el D(2021)3957726

Vivek Parekh  
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**Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref. GestDem 2021/1669**

Dear Mr Parekh,

We refer to your access to document requests sent on 18 March 2021, and registered under the above-mentioned reference numbers, in which you made requests for access to documents under Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

You request to access:

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

- 1) Between GRTgaz and Stefano Grassi, Cabinet member of Kadri Simson, Laure Chapuis-Kombos, Cabinet member of Kadri Simson, and Kadri Simson, Commissioner on 10th July 2020.
- 2) Between GRTgaz and Dominique Ristori, Director-General on 9th July 2019.
- 3) Between GRTgaz and Dominique Ristori, Director-General on 26th March 2018.”

Following a thorough research and examination of the documents requested under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to documents, we have identified 1 document corresponding to your request. It is a briefing prepared for Mr Dominique Ristori for the meeting with GRTGaz that took place on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018, registered as Ares(2019)1675701.

In relation to point 1 and 2 of your request, we regret to inform you that despite our thorough search, no documents were found that would correspond to the description given in your application.

Indeed, as specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation 1049/2001, the right of access as defined in that regulation applies only to existing documents in the possession of the institution.

Concerning the identified document, I am glad to inform you that following an examination under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to documents, the document can be disclosed, subject to the redaction of personal data.

In this respect, some parts of the document have been blanked out as its disclosure is prevented by exceptions to the right of access laid down in Article 4 paragraph 1 (b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 because they contain the personal data.

Pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access to a document has to be refused if its disclosure would undermine the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual, in particular in accordance with European Union legislation regarding the protection of personal data.

Article 9(1)(b) of the Data Protection Regulation<sup>1</sup> 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 document, with exception for names of main representatives of public entities, 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 find enclosed the redacted copy of the document in question.

In case you would disagree with this assessment, 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 within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretariat-General of the Commission at the following address:

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

European Commission  
Secretariat-General  
Unit C.1. 'Transparency, Document Management and Access to Documents'  
BERL 7/076  
B-1049 Brussels  
or by email to: [sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu)

Yours sincerely,

*(e-signed)*

Oliver Koch  
Acting Head of Unit

Enclosures: 1