Brussels, ENV.B.2

Ms Julia Thibord POLLINIS 10 rue Saint Marc 75002 Paris FRANCE

*By email:* ask+request-12233-51aca0b8@asktheeu.org

Dear Ms Thibord,

## Subject: Your application for access to documents: Ref EASE No 2022/6872

We refer to your request for access to documents dated 25/11/2022 and registered under the above-mentioned reference number.

You requested access to the following:

"...According to a study published in 2020 (M. Petek et al., Validating the Potential of Double-Stranded RNA Targeting Colorado Potato Beetle Mesh Gene in Laboratory and Field Trials. Frontiers, in Plants Science, 19 August 2020: https://urldefense.com/v3/\_\_https://doi.org/10.3389/fpls.2020.01250\_\_;!!DOxrgLBm!BL o41suoMgzd8wSqN04i0pxUN9B5CPofgudlMcluc304L63VGvtKykBQ6ligxiR\_RV8M8WF HNQ6VBrteru7qy6H-pVsEiH75HuCLAo00wmA\$), a field trial of ds-RNA pesticides was conducted in June and July 2019 on three locations near Ljubljana, in Slovenia. As part of this trial, DsRNA pesticides were sprayed on fields of potato plants infested by Colorado potato beetle (CPB) larvae, thus resulting in the release of GMOs into the environment.

Please confirm whether these trials have been notified and/or authorised under Directive 2001/18/EC of 12 March 2001 on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms. If not, please indicate which legislation is relevant and/or applicable for such field trials.

Please provide all documents (within the meaning of Regulation 1049/2001) and/or all environmental information (within the meaning of Regulation 1367/2006), in relation to these trials and their notification/authorisation process."

We regret to inform you that the Directorate-General for Environment does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description given in your application.

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 DG Environment, DG Environment 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.

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,

eSigned

Florika FINK-HOOIJER

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