Cabinet of Commissioner Kadri SIMSON - Minutes of VideoConference

VIDEOCONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS

Title	Meeting with Albioma, 03.05.2022
Date	03-05-2022
Participants	Ext : COM: B. Glowacka, CAB Simson, ███████, ENER C.2
	Ares initial request : Ares(2022)2755498
	Disclosure authorization : ☒ YES - ☐ NO - ☐ Partial (pls highlight unauthorized parts)
Issues raised & follow-up	CAB Simson (Barbara Glowacka) and ENER ███████, C.2) met with the French power company Albioma on their request. Albioma has a total 700 MW installed power capacity in French overseas as well as in Brazil and Mauritius. They are supplying electricity and heat from different biomass fuels, including residues from sugar cane, but also geothermal and other renewables. Albioma underlined the following concerns with regard to RED II implementation and RED II revision regarding biomass sustainability criteria: - Article 29, extension of GHG saving criteria for installations prior 2021. As their island installations are working with different biofuels to ensure baseload, some plants will not be able to fulfil the extended GHG thresholds. - Albioma is also concerned about the possible exclusion of granting new support to electricity only installations. New projects are planned in Mayotte which would need support as only baseload alternative on the island. - Albioma shares industry concerns on the ENVI proposal exclude primary woody biomass from RED. - With regard to the possibility for derogation given in RED II Art 29 (13) for overseas territories from the sustainability criteria, Albioma noted that this was only useful if a similar derogation would be given also in the context of ETS. In its reply, COM referred to ongoing discussion with co-legislators on the RED II amendment, the extension of GHG saving criteria to existing installations was discussed in Council. As to RED II implementation, we recommended the company to get in touch with DG CLIMA colleagues on ETS and to consider with the French authorities to notify the Commission a derogation request under Art. 29 (13).