

GÜNTHER H. OETTINGER
MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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HH/cg

Mr Alexey Miller
Chairman of the Management Committee of JSC Gazprom
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Dear Mr Miller,

I would like to thank you for your letter of 9 November as a follow-up to our meeting in Moscow on 2 November. I share your impression that this was a constructive and useful meeting.

In the meantime, the conference on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the EU-Russia Dialogue on 22 November 2010 offered us a further opportunity to discuss with the Russian government and European and Russian industry representatives how we should strengthen EU-Russia energy cooperation.

In the margins of the Permanent Partnership Council on Energy the same day Minister Shmatko and myself signed a Joint Report outlining the future priorities of EU-Russia energy cooperation.

We confirmed to set up a dedicated working group to discuss the impact of EU legislation on EU-Russia energy relations with a view to finding pragmatic solutions in full respect of the EU rules for electricity and gas. On the EU side, this group will be chaired by Director General Philip Lowe. Other members will be [REDACTED] from my services as well as [REDACTED] and a representative from the EU Presidency. My Cabinet will also be represented. We could discuss in this framework also world gas developments.

However, Minister Shmatko and I also agreed to launch within our Dialogue discussions on a compatible understanding of the roadmap until 2050 and notably on the future role of gas in the EU energy mix. I think that – beyond sharing information and forecasts on this subject – it is important for both sides to exchange views on the EU strategy towards a low-carbon economy drawing on input from public authorities and industry.

These discussions should take place within the Thematic Working Group on Strategies, Forecasts and Scenarios which I understand will start the preparatory work on this matter.

I would suggest that both groups could meet on 21 January 2011 in Moscow.

I would be pleased if we could follow-up these and other important subjects at our level as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

