



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP
AND SMES

The acting Director-General

Brussels , 28/02/2020
GROW.01/MD

Ms Belen Balanya
Corporate Europe Observatory

By email:
ask+request-7531-
f9715824@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2020/0107

Dear Ms Balanya,

We refer to your e-mail of 19/12/2019 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 07/01/2020 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to *“all correspondence (including email), list of meetings and minutes of the meetings since 1st January 2019 between the former Commissioner and her cabinet and/or officials and representatives of DG GROW on one hand and representatives from BusinessEurope, Shell, ExxonMobil, Chevron, Total, BP, CEFIC, the International Association of Oil & Gas Producers (IOGP), EUROGAS, FuelsEurope, the European Energy Forum, Hydrogen Europe, ETIP ZEP (ZEP), the Technical Committee of Petroleum Additive Manufacturers in Europe AISBL (ATC), Association Technique de l’Industrie Européenne des Lubrifiants (ATIEL), European Biodiesel Board (EBB), Fédération belge des industries chimiques et des sciences de la vie (essenscia), European Federation of Energy Traders (EFET), and the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA) on the other, in which the European Green Deal was addressed.”*

I consider your request to cover documents held up to the date of your initial application, i.e. 19/12/2019.

Your application concerns the following documents:

1. Minutes from a meeting between DG GROW with Business Europe, 12 September 2019 – ARES(2019)6536886;
2. Minutes from a meeting between GROW.D with CEFIC, 24 September 2019 – ARES(2019)6087998;
3. Minutes from a meeting between GROW.C with EFCG (CEFIC) on the shortage of medicines, 12 December 2019 – ARES(2019)7818968;
4. DG GROW – DG ENV meeting CEFIC Report – ARES(2020)200858;
5. Minutes from a meeting between GROW and Business Europe, 10/12/2019 – ARES(2019)7617064;
6. Meeting request from Shell Netherlands - ARES(2020)1111524;
7. Minutes from a meeting between GROW and Shell Netherlands, 10 December 2019 - ARES(2020)1105991.

Please note that some parts of documents 1, 2 and 3 have been redacted as they are out of scope of the request.

Protection of personal data

With regard to the documents 1 to 7, listed above, a complete disclosure of the identified documents is prevented by the exception concerning the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual outlined in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, because they contain the following personal data:

- the names/initials and contact information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management;
- the names/initials and contact details of other natural persons.

Article 9(1)(b) of the Data Protection Regulation 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 documents, 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.

In case you would disagree with this position, 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:

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

Yours sincerely,

(e-signed)
Gwenole COZIGOU

Enclosure: 7 Annexes