(ECHO)

From:

Sent: jeudi 6 février 2020 15:02

To:

Cc:

Subject: Eurogas Meeting Follow Up

Dear ,

It was a pleasure to meet you last week, thank you for spending time with us to discuss the role of gas in the EU energy transition. It was reassuring to hear your views on the necessary role of gas in the coming decade, as you know we see gas as a means to reduce CO2 emissions and provide affordable energy for the people of the EU. As we discussed we strongly believe that the message that gas is not eligible in the Just Transition Fund impacts not only the willingness of EU member states to move beyond coal, it also sends a message to the world that gas is not part of the solution. This is increasingly worrying as the investments in coal power across the world are beginning to grow and this is dangerous for the world and our global climate ambitions. It is important that the European Commission continues to recognise the role that gas will play in achieving our carbon reduction targets for 2030 and beyond.

We noted the strong interest of yourself and the Commissioner in hydrogen and will send you further information on EU developments of hydrogen projects very shortly. Hydrogen offers an industrial opportunity of gas for Europe. The EU leads in the development and manufacturing of gas technologies – turbines, LNG engines, electrolysers, anaerobic digestors and CCS equipment. The industrial strategy of the EU should look to build these sectors as a strong manufacturing element of the energy transition and provide jobs and technology leadership here in the EU. Exporting these gas technologies to our partners around the world will make a huge difference to their viability and competitiveness, while helping them to decarbonise and support stable and secure nation building. In this regard we also reiterate our view that any hydrogen initiative in the EU should be a 'clean' hydrogen initiative, rather than one that focuses only on hydrogen produced from renewable electricity.

We look forward to continuing to exchange views with you over the coming five years and look forward to working with you to deliver the potential of gas as a climate mitigation tool and as a provider of jobs and growth for Europe and the world in the coming decade.

Best wishes