Brussels

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt

Faye Holder, 40 Bermondsey Street, London J4Y 0B5 United Kingdom

Advance copy by email: ask+request-8201-481bca1d@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2020/3534

Dear Ms Holder

We refer to your e-mail dated 9 June 2020 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 10 June 2020 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You requested access to "All documentation, including but not limited to attendance lists, agendas, background papers, minutes/notes, video recordings and email correspondence about or summarising, the following meetings:

- i. Between Royal Dutch Shell (Shell) and member of Frans Timmermans' Cabinet, Sarah Nelen, on 7/05/2020.
- ii. Between Royal Dutch Shell (Shell) and member of Frans Timmermans' Cabinet, Stefanie Hiesinger, on 14/04/2020"

Your application concerns the following documents:

	Author	Date	Reference
1	European Commission/Shell	22 April 2020	Ares(2020)2173198
2	European Commission/Shell	22 April 2020	Ares(2020)2173680

			Ares(2020)3482031
3	European	2 July 2020	
	Commission/Shell		

Please find the documents enclosed with this letter. However, I regret to inform you that I cannot give you access to some parts of the documents.

A complete disclosure of the 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: names and contact information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management; names and contact details of other natural persons and other information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person.

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)

Luca DE CARLI