



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP
AND SMES
Industrial Policy and Innovation
Industrial Strategy and Value Chains

Brussels
GROW.F.1/

Ms Elena Gerebizza
Common, via dei Sardi 28,
00185 Rome,
Italy

By e-mail:
ask+request-8380-29fce979@asktheeu.org

Dear Madam,

Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2020/5626

We refer to your e-mail of 17 July 2020 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 22 September 2020 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to:

1- all correspondence (including email) between 1st December 2018 and 12 July 2020 between Commissioner Breton and/or his cabinets and/or officials from the DG Grow on one hand and representatives from IOGP, Shell, the Global CCS Institute, Hydrogen Europe, Snam and Fleishman Hillard, in which the issue of hydrogen and or carbon capture and storage (CCS) were addressed.

2 - list of meetings between 1st December 2018 and 12 July 2020 between officials and representatives of DG Grow on one hand and representatives from IOGP, Shell, the Global CCS Institute, Hydrogen Europe, Snam and Fleishman Hillard on the other, in which issue of hydrogen and or carbon capture and storage (CCS) were addressed.

3 - minutes of the meetings mentioned above.

We have identified 14 documents and their attachments, that fall within the scope of your request.

You will find attached a table listing the identified documents and summarising the outcome of the assessment carried out on the basis of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

Furthermore, I enclose a link to the Register of Commission expert groups where, in tab “Meetings”, you will find all minutes of the meetings that took place within the context of the Commission expert group “Strategic Forum for Important Projects of Common European Interest” in which Hydrogen Europe participated as member: <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=3583>

Regarding the annex listed number 11A, we enclose an additional link for the report “The potential for CCS and CCU in Europe” published by IOGP, where you will find additional information that should be taken into consideration in the interpretation of the presentation: https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/iogp_-_report_-_ccs_ccu.pdf.

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/functions 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.

Please note that a document originating from third parties is disclosed to you based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. However, this disclosure is without prejudice to the rules on intellectual property, which may limit your right to reproduce or exploit the released document without the agreement of the originator, who may hold an intellectual property right on it. The European Commission does not assume any responsibility from their reuse.

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 faithfully,

Mark Nicklas
Head of Unit

Enclosures: 21 annexes