The Director-General

Brussels ENER/DJ/AV (2021) 1846571

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt

RINALDI Luca

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C/o sala stampa nazionale

Advance copy by email:

ask+request-9017-7daeafd0@asktheeu.org

Dear Mr Rinaldi,

Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2021/0589

We refer to your e-mail of 5 February 2021 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 5 February 2021 under the above-mentioned reference number.

We regret to inform you that the Commission does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description given in your application:

For the period between 1 January 2019 to date:

- a list of all lobby and industry meetings and/or calls held by the Directorate-General for Energy, including any Cabinet Members and/or officials, during which "deep-sea mining" and/or "seabed mining" and/or "marine minerals" were discussed.

The list should include: date, individuals attending and organisational affiliation, as well as the issues discussed:

- all minutes and other reports of these meetings and/or calls;
- all documents prepared for the purpose of the meetings issued both in preparation and after the meetings took place.
- all correspondence, including attachments (i.e. any emails, mail correspondence or telephone call notes) between the Directorate-General for Energy, including any Cabinet Members and/or officials, and any lobby group and/or industry representative discussing "deep-sea mining" and/or "seabed mining" and/or "marine minerals".

The services of the Directorate General for Energy and Cabinet for Commissioner Simson have searched through their files and in the historical archives (for documents related to former Commissioner for Energy). The result of this search is that no documents could be found that would correspond to the description in your request.

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the right of access as defined in that regulation applies only to existing documents in the possession of the institution.

Given that no such documents, corresponding to the description given in your application, are held by the Commission, the Commission is not in a position to fulfil your request.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, you are entitled to make 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

Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1) BERL 7/076

B-1049 Brussels

or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours faithfully,

(e-signed)

Ditte Juul Jørgensen