Topics discussed:

Follow-up to the European Council conclusions on climate change of 10-11 December 2021

- DK likely to support the Commission line hence interested in Commission view on the articulation of the additional guidance with the internal preparations for the ‘fit for 55’ package;

- Key for DK is to avoid delaying the presentation of the Commission package and to keep the discussion in the European Council at a general level so as to avoid pre-judging policy choices to be made in the legislative process;

- Concerns about the prospects of climate change as a single topic for a dedicated meeting of the European Council end of May.

‘Fit for 55’ package

- A strengthened emission trading system at the core of the policy framework together with stricter EU standards are the key drivers for cost-effective emission reduction; supports phase-out of internal combustion engines;

- Supports the extension of the emission trading system to road transport and buildings;

- Specific areas of interest: offshore wind (supports revision of the electricity legislation to bolster cross-border selling of renewable electricity); shipping (enforcement of the rules for international shipping); role of gas (concerns that the latest changes to the taxonomy delegated act are incentivising the use of gas beyond what the notion of gas as a transition fuel entails).