Subject: Consultation pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents – GESTDEM 2021/3014

Dear Ms Belen Balanya,

We refer to your e-mail of 06 May 2021 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 07 May 2021 under the above mentioned reference number. As communicated on 1 June 2021, the initial time limit of 15 working days for handling your application was extended by 15 working days, thus until 23 June 2021.

You requested access to the following documents:

1. All correspondence (including emails) between 1 January 2021 and 6 May 2021 between President von der Leyen, EVP Dombrovskis, EVP Timmermans, Commissioner Simson, Commissioner Breton, and/or their cabinets and/or officials from DG ENER, DG CLIMA, DG GROW, DG TRADE and Secretariat General on one hand and stakeholders on the other, where EU taxonomy for sustainable activities was addressed.

2. List of meetings, videocalls, or calls between 1st December 2020 and 6th May 2021 between officials and/or representatives of the European Commission and stakeholders where the issue of EU taxonomy for sustainable activities was addressed.

3. Minutes of the meetings, videocalls, or calls mentioned above

Please note that due to the wide scope of your request, covering also areas falling under the responsibility of other Directorates-General, parts of your request have been attributed to other Directorates-General. You will receive the replies from the other
respective Directorates-General in due course. This reply relates only to the exchanges and meetings between the cabinet of the President and the Secretariat-General on the one hand, and stakeholders on the other hand, and includes the documents specified in the annex of this letter falling within the scope of your request. Some of these documents also relate to your request GESTDEM 2021/3012.

In addition, you will also find attached to this letter a copy of the documents which can be disclosed, taking into account the observations below.

Please note that since some documents originate from third parties, the originators of the documents have been consulted.

Following an examination of document with reference Ares(2021)2703904 under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to documents and taking into account the opinion of the third parties, I regret to inform you that disclosure is prevented by exceptions to the right of access laid down in forth indent of Article 4(1)(a), and first subparagraph Article 4(3) of this Regulation.

In particular, some of the authors of the document have objected to disclosure of the document that they sent to the Commission on the grounds that the disclosure of the document would undermine the protection of the public interest as regards the financial, monetary or economic policy of the Union or of a Member State; and that the disclosure of the document would seriously undermine the institutions’ decision-making process, as the document relates to a matter where a decision has not been taken.

Moreover, having examined the document with reference Ares(2021)606806, we have come to the conclusion that the document may be partially disclosed. Some parts of that document have been blanked out as their disclosure is prevented by the exception to the right of access laid down in first indent of Article 4(2) of this Regulation. The author of the document has objected to the disclosure of the document that they sent to the Commission on the grounds that it contains commercially sensitive information.

Please also note the following important information:

- In line with Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, in the attached documents, personal data has been redacted. In your request, you do not express any particular interest to have access to these personal data nor put forward any arguments to establish the necessity to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest.

- The documents originating from third parties are 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 documents without the agreement of the originator, who may hold an intellectual property right on them. The European Commission does not assume any responsibility from their reuse.

- The minutes were drawn up for internal use under the responsibility of the relevant Cabinet. They solely reflect the author’s interpretation of the interventions made and do not set out any official position of the third parties to which they refer, which were not consulted on its content. The document does not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such.
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 Secretary-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 Bruxelles

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

Yours faithfully,

Elisabeth Werner
Acting Director
ANNEX

12/01/2021 - Ares(2021)247758 ETNO-GSMA joint letter on Delegated Regulation on a climate change mitigation and adaptation

13/01/2021 - Ares(2021)292979 CIP Confederation of Portuguese Business on priorities for PT Presidency

14/01/2021 - Ares(2021)304842 Alliance of European NGOs weCARE on the nuclear energy source

25/01/2021 - Ares(2021)606806 ArcelorMittal_Sustainable Finance, EU Taxonomy Climate Screening Criteria

29-01-2021 - Ares(2021)2636655 - 4 FR energy trade unions on importance of nuclear energy and electricity from gas-fired power

09/02/2021 - Ares(2021)1133878 Civil Society Letter to EU Commission - Science-Based EU Taxonomy of Sustainable Investments February 2021

16/02/2021 - Ares(2021)1283341 [Re] WeCARE Letter on Green Deal Implementation Tools

23/02/2021 - Ares(2021) 1427481 [Re] Letter from the Co-President of The Club of Rome sharing serious concerns regarding Taxonomy

24/02/2021 - Ares(2021)1446243 [Re] CSO statement and attachments Why keeping fossil gas out of the EU Taxonomy is a must

24/02/2021 - Ares(2021)1446231 CSO statement and attachments Why keeping fossil gas out of the EU Taxonomy is a must

24/02/2021 - Ares(2021)1452429 CSO statement and attachments EC Directors

04/03/2021 - Ares(2021)1622269 and Ares (2021)1622236 [Re] EURIMA_EU Taxonomy must contribute to Green Deal

05/03/2021 - Ares(2021)1649459 DE MEPS Pieper, Caspary, Niebler, Ehler_delegated act on the screening criteria for the EU taxonomy

10/03/2021 - Ares(2022)1745089 NGO letter on European Clean Hydrogen Alliance (ECH2A) governance and decision making

11/03/2021 - Ares(2021)1762631 PNC-France on the nuclear energy as an energy source in France

12/03/2021 - Ares(2021)1788135 WWF, and others_fossil gas in the EU taxonomy

22/03/2021 - Ares(2021)2024700 [Re] Letter to the directors of the NGOs WWF, Transport & Environment, Birdlife, and NABU on EU Taxonomy

24/03/2021 - Ares(2021)2072166 -Scientists and NGOs_EU Taxonomy
24/03/2021 - Ares(2021)2085773 Prime Ministers CZ,HU,PL,RO,SK,SI and President FR_role of nuclear power in the EU climate and energy policy with annexes

25/03/2021 - Ares(2021)2102752 Rabobank_green treshold of the EU Green Taxonomy

26/03/2021 - Ares(2021)2145278 ASR Nederland_EU Green Taxonomy

29/03/2021 - Ares(2021)2166028 - 46 NGOs_nuclear energy as an important part of the EU Taxonomy

31/03/2021 - Ares(2021)2222528 MEPS Eickhot and Giegold (Greens)_updated draft Delegated Act Taxonomy Regulation

31/03/2021 - Ares(2021)2235719 WWF Letter to the Commission on the EU Taxonomy and Sustainable Finance

06/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2352130 Greenpeace, CAN, etc_exclusion of nuclear energy from EU Taxonomy delegated acts

06/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2351993 Stora Enso_Taxonomy delegated act

09/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2438433 - 68 civil society organisations_EU Taxonomy of Sustainable Investments

12/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2474084 MEP Pietikainen_phone call on EU Taxonomy

13/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2507383 Minutes of the meeting DK Permanent Representation

14/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2522609 Rej to Hill+Knowlton Strategies_EU Taxonomy

14/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2527705 IAOGP_phone call request on EU Taxonomy

14/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2522321 Avril Group Taxonomy

14/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2532067 Hydrogen Europe sharing final version of the Hydrogen Act

15/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2562270 Institutional Investors Group_draft delegated regulation und the Taxonomy

15/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2552480 Paris Europlace_nuclear power in the EU climate policy and inclusion in the EU Taxonomy

15/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2559127 Prime Ministers FI,SE_EU Taxonomy_Ref to a proposal from 12 MS on forestry

16/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2584911 Minister letter AT, BE, DE, DK, ES, LU, IE_Taxonomy Delegated Act

16/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2574758 WeCare_nuclear energy in EU Taxonomy

16/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2576188 Waterborne sector on its crucial role in Europe's recovery, autonomy and climate policies

16/04/2021 Ares(2021)2585712 COGEN_EU Taxonomy
16/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2578883 - 5MEPs_Delegated Act on the EU Taxonomy

16/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2570922 France Industrie_EU taxonomy

16/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2583893 PNC France on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions

16/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2571940 [Re] IAOGP - Request for a phone call on taxonomy

16/04/2021 - Ares(2021)1917709 REPLY CSO statement

19/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2615317 [Re] WWF follow-up to mtg on deforestation, climate and taxonomy

19/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2613559 FW_UTP's position on the European Strategy on intelligent and sustainable Mobility

19/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2615287 WWF follow-up to mtg on deforestation, climate and taxonomy

20/04/2021 - Ares(2021)741395 - 13 Trade unions on the importance of nuclear energy in a carbon-free Europe by 2050

22/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2703904 Governments of BG, CZ, HR, CY, EL, HU, LT, MT, PL, RO, SK_delegated act on Taxonomy

22/04/2021 - Ares(2021)2789166 NO ambassador on Norwegian perspectives and contributions to European Green Deal

28/04/2021 - Ares (2021)2844830 Letter Club of Rome, Platform on Sustainable Finance_opinion on EU Taxonomy Climate Delegated Act

17/05/2021 - ARES(2021) 3253003 E-mail exchange in organising the video meeting

31/05/2021 - Ares(2021)3577352 Short minutes of a meeting with Compagnie de SAINT-GOBAIN on 16032021 - Draft Delegated Act, EU Taxonomy

31/05/2021 - Ares(2021)3577491 Short minutes of a meeting with Lantbrukarnas Riksförbund (LRF) on 16032021 - Draft Delegated Act, EU Taxonomy

31/05/2021 - Ares (2021)3577537 Short minutes of a meeting with Wirtschaftskammer Österreich (WKÖ) on 09032021