

Directorate D - Twin Transition, Economic & Social Affairs The Director

Brussels SG.D

Ms Belen Balanya Corporate Europe Observatory Rue d'Édimbourg 26 B-1050 Ixelles Belgium

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Subject:

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

Dear 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

- 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.
- 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 <u>attached</u> 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 Rel 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