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**Mr Maroš Šefčovič**

Vice President in charge of Energy Union  
European Commission  
Rue de la Loi, 200  
1049 Brussels  
BELGIUM

Brussels, 8 April 2016

**Subject : Gas Infrastructure Europe (GIE) – 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on 9-10 June 2016 in Sofia**

Dear Vice President,

2016 will be the year of delivery for the Energy Union. Many legislative proposals will be discussed this year on security of gas supply, LNG and gas storage, emissions reduction in the non-ETS sector, energy efficiency, electricity market design... As representative of gas infrastructure operators, Gas Infrastructure Europe (GIE) is an important stakeholder in the European energy policy and regulatory debates.

The GIE Annual Conference has developed into an important discussion forum and the main arena to meet all key players around gas infrastructure. The 14<sup>th</sup> edition of the GIE Annual Conference will take place in Sofia on 9-10 June 2016. This will be the opportunity to discuss the important European policy initiatives relevant for gas infrastructure, with a special focus to the developments in Central and South-Eastern Europe, showing advances in regional cooperation and improving every country's access to different sources of gas.

As President of GIE, I have the pleasure to invite you to deliver a keynote speech at the opening of the conference on 9 June. Your participation as Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Energy Union would contribute significantly to the success of the conference, as were the contributions of Commissioner Oettinger and Commissioner Cañete in the previous four editions of the GIE Annual Conference. I do hope that you will be able to accept this invitation.

For further information, please contact the GIE Secretariat at [gie@gie.eu](mailto:gie@gie.eu) or at +32 2 2090500.

Sincerely yours,



Jean-Marc Leroy  
President  
Gas Infrastructure Europe (GIE)