

From: [PINTO ANTUNES Jorge \(CAB-WOJCIECHOWSKI\)](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [PINZARIU Simona \(CAB-WOJCIECHOWSKI\)](#); Art. 4.1 (b) - privacy
Subject: RE: Eurogas Meeting Follow up
Date: 17 February 2020 17:25:37
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your e-mail and the opportunity to hear from you on the role of gas in the European Green Deal.

We take note of your suggestions and re-iterate our message that a carbon neutral EU in 2050 is an opportunity for a sustainable growth strategy.

We look forward to continuing this discussion on ways to develop policy solutions to current sustainability challenges.

Best regards, also on behalf of my colleague Simona,



Jorge Pinto Antunes

Member of Cabinet

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From: [REDACTED] Art. 4.1 (b) - privacy
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 3:01 PM
To: PINZARIU Simona (CAB-WOJCIECHOWSKI) [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu>;
PINTO ANTUNES Jorge (CAB-WOJCIECHOWSKI) [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu>
Cc: [REDACTED] Art. 4.1 (b) - privacy
Subject: Eurogas Meeting Follow up

Dear Simona, dear Jorge,

It was a pleasure to meet you last week, thank you for spending time with us to discuss the role of gas in the EU energy transition. It was interesting to hear your views on the role of gas in the energy transition and we would like to reiterate our view of its important role in reducing carbon emissions. We would also like to recall our key point that we strongly believe that the message that gas is not eligible in the Just Transition Fund impacts not only the willingness of EU member states to move beyond coal, it also sends a message to the world that gas is not part of the climate solution. This is increasingly worrying as the investments in coal power across the world are beginning to grow and this is dangerous for the world and our global climate ambitions. It is important that the European Commission continues to recognise the role that gas will play in achieving our carbon reduction targets for 2030 and beyond, and in this regard we believe that the Commission should be more unambiguous in its support for gas in the

coming decade.

We also agreed with and noted your interest in the need for gas itself to undergo a decarbonisation process to support a carbon neutral EU in 2050. As we mentioned we support this goal, provided there is a suitable framework for gas decarbonisation. In this regard we would like to reiterate our call for EU wide binding targets for renewable and decarbonised gas, supported with a harmonised system for trading guarantees of origin across the EU. This system should also support and recognise the importance of hydrogen produced from natural gas, utilising CCS technology. This is missing in the current regulatory framework and should be brought forward in the forthcoming gas legislation review.

We also believe that biogas will be an important economic opportunity for rural communities and that with an increase in scale of biogas we can expect many more jobs to be created in agricultural economic areas. We were pleased to hear that pillar 2 of the CAP will continue to support biogas and thus recognise the role that biogas can play in reducing CO2 emissions, but also methane emissions from agricultural activities. Eurogas believes that biogas should be produced only from second generation feedstocks and accepts that this may therefore be a limited form of renewable energy, but a recent study estimates the potential to be around 120 bcm in 2050. This is around one quarter to one third of the current gas market. This is not insignificant. We strongly encourage you to continue supporting the development of biogas and supporting rural economies to diversify their economic activities, while delivering on our climate ambition in the EU.

We look forward to continuing to exchange views with you over the coming five years and look forward to working with you to deliver the potential of gas as a climate mitigation tool and as a provider of jobs and growth for rural European communities in the coming decade.

Best wishes

[Redacted signature]
[Redacted name]