



Mr. Johannes Hahn
 Commissioner
 European Commission
 Berlaymont
 1049 Brussels

Brussels, 9 December 2019

Subject: Meeting request to discuss the role of gas in the energy transition and the Green Deal

Dear Commissioner Hahn,

We would like to congratulate you for your appointment and provide you with our views on the energy transition and the Green Deal for Europe.

Eurogas supports calls for a European Climate Law that enshrines the 2050 climate-neutrality ambition into law, and we believe the gas industry will be a critical contributor to achieve this objective. The EU will require a legislative framework that enables all decarbonisation options to be part of the solution. All options, including natural gas, renewable gas and decarbonised gas in combination with carbon capture will be needed to enable a successful energy transition, while reducing overall societal costs. We therefore encourage the European Commission to put forward a decarbonisation strategy that ensures a steady uptake of renewable and decarbonised gases.

Eurogas supports the recently agreed EU climate and energy objectives for 2030. It is essential from an investor perspective that the stability and predictability of EU policy making is preserved. Increased 2030 targets must therefore not lead to a reduction in the speed of implementation of the Clean Energy Package, while being accompanied by additional and complementary measures that would enable additional greenhouse gas emission reductions. In parallel, the Energy Union objectives of energy security, affordability and sustainability must also be observed. Switching from coal and oil to gas in power generation offers the fastest and the most cost-effective solution for the EU to accelerate the decarbonisation of the EU economy. It enables the EU to exceed its current 2030 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target by delivering a 45% reduction in CO₂ emissions. Additional greenhouse gas emission reductions can be achieved by the widespread uptake of LNG in heavy duty road transport and maritime transport.

Eurogas therefore supports a robust EU ETS that provides appropriate market-based price signals to drive sustainable investment decisions. The current ETS is already a driving force in coal to gas switching, beyond individual national commitments to phase out coal. In parallel, Eurogas supports efforts to manage and reduce methane emissions from the gas sector, including through improved reporting and quantification methods as well as mitigation practices.

Finally, we are convinced that the energy transition is not only a challenge, but also offers significant opportunities for innovative European businesses. Europe is leading the way when it comes to climate change mitigation policies. Moving faster than the rest of the world



requires establishing a level playing field to ensure that EU industry can continue to grow and prosper. Europe can become and, in many areas, already is leading the development of decarbonisation technologies, we lead in the manufacturing of power to gas electrolyzers, anaerobic digestors, LNG engines and carbon capture technologies like pyrolysis. The EU should take advantage of the potential in decarbonising gas to lead the technologies of the energy transition not only in R&D but also in manufacturing. Turning climate change mitigation into an opportunity for innovative EU businesses and effectively addressing the risk of carbon-leakage should be the core of an EU industrial decarbonisation strategy.

We look forward to the opportunity to present to you our vision on the role of gas – natural, renewable and decarbonised – in the energy transition and to discuss our detailed policy recommendations with you at your earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]

[Redacted contact information]

From: [REDACTED]@eurogas.org>
Sent: dimanche 12 janvier 2020 21:39
To: [REDACTED] (CAB-HAHN)
Cc:
Subject: RE: Meeting request to discuss the role of gas in the energy transition and the Green Deal

Dear [REDACTED]

Thanks for your response and proposal to meet with David Müller. This is much appreciated.
The proposed timeslot of 17h00-17h30 would suit us well. We will already be in the building and could come directly from our meeting with the Cabinet of EVP Vestager, which is scheduled to end at 16h30.

Best regards,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@eurogas.org

We have moved, meet us at
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
www.eurogas.org
EU Transparency Register: [REDACTED]

Eurogas is part of GasNaturally



The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

From: [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu>
Sent: Friday, 10 January 2020 15:45
To: [REDACTED]@eurogas.org>
Subject: RE: Meeting request to discuss the role of gas in the energy transition and the Green Deal

Dear [REDACTED]

Commissioner Hahn has asked me to thank you for your meeting request on behalf of [REDACTED]

Regrettably Commissioner Hahn is unable to meet [REDACTED] but has asked to schedule a meeting with our Head of Cabinet, David Müller. Possible timeslots on 29/01 are as follows.

- 14:00 – 14:30
- 14:30 – 15:00
- 17:00 – 17:30

Should [REDACTED] be interested in meeting with David, please let me know which of the timeslots would suit you best.

With best regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cabinet of Commissioner Johannes Hahn
Budget and Administration
B-1049 Brussels
Tel [REDACTED]
[\[REDACTED\]@ec.europa.eu](mailto:[REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu)



From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@eurogas.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@eurogas.org)>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 12:09 PM
To: CAB HAHN CONTACT [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@ec.europa.eu](mailto:[REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu)>
Subject: Meeting request to discuss the role of gas in the energy transition and the Green Deal

Dear Commissioner,

I am writing to you on behalf of [REDACTED] Eurogas, the representative association of the European gas industry, to request a meeting to discuss the Green Deal and the role of gas in Europe's energy mix going forward. Eurogas supports the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the European Commission's long-term vision of a climate neutral economy by 2050.

[REDACTED] will be in Brussels on 29 January. We would very much appreciate the opportunity to discuss the role of gas in the energy transition, and to present our proposals for delivering a carbon neutral economy utilising gas to its full potential.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]
[\[REDACTED\]@eurogas.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@eurogas.org)
[REDACTED]



www.eurogas.org

EU Transparency Register: [REDACTED]

Eurogas is part of GasNaturally



The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

From: [REDACTED]
To: CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Eurogas Meeting Follow Up
Date: jeudi 6 février 2020 15:04:13

Dear Kyriacos,

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 reassuring to hear your views on the necessary role of gas in the coming decade, as you know we see gas as a means to reduce CO2 emissions and provide affordable energy for the people of the EU. As we discussed 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 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 were reassured by your statements that you still see gas as an important tool to decarbonise the EU in the coming years.

We also mentioned that the EU leads in the development and manufacturing of gas technologies – turbines, LNG engines, electrolyzers, anaerobic digestors and CCS equipment. The industrial strategy of the EU should look to build these sectors as a strong manufacturing element of the energy transition and provide jobs and technology leadership here in the EU. Exporting these gas technologies will make a huge difference to their viability and competitiveness. In this regard we also reiterate our view that any hydrogen initiative in the EU should be a 'clean' hydrogen initiative, rather than one that focuses only on hydrogen produced from renewable electricity. In this regard we encourage a sensible review of the state aid guidelines to facilitate the further development of these promising technology opportunities to benefit the population of the EU with jobs and wealth creation.

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 Europeans in the coming decade.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]
Eurogas