



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP
AND SMES

Coordination and Planning

Brussels, 2 September 2020
GROW.01/LB

BALANYA Belen
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1050 Brussels
Belgium

By email:

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dbcccadd@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2020/4246

Dear Ms Balanya,

We refer to your e-mail of 12/07/2020 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 13/07/2020 under the above-mentioned reference number.

1. Scope of your request

You request access to “1- all correspondence (including email) between 1st December 2019 and 12 July 2020 between Commissioner Simson, Commissioner Timmermans, Commissioner Breton, President van der Leyen, and/or their cabinets and/or officials from the European Commission on one hand and representatives from IOGP, Shell, Total, BP, Equinor, ZEP, the Global CCS Institute, Hydrogen Europe, the Hydrogen Council, Business Europe, the European Roundtable for Industry, GasNaturally, Eurogás, ENTSO-G, Snam, Enagás, Fluxys, Open Grid Europe, GRTGaz, Teréga, Eurofer, ArcelorMittal, FTI Consulting, Fleishman Hillard, Alstom, Engie, Air Liquide, Toyota, Gas for Climate consortium, Gas Infrastructure Europe on the other, in which the Hydrogen strategy was addressed.

2 - list of meetings between 1st December 2019 and 12 July 2020 between officials and representatives of the European Commission on one hand and representatives from IOGP, Shell, Total, BP, Equinor, ZEP, the Global CCS Institute, Hydrogen Europe, the Hydrogen Council, Business Europe, the European Roundtable for Industry, GasNaturally, Eurogás, ENTSO-G, Snam, Enagás, Fluxys, Open Grid Europe, GRTGaz, Teréga, Eurofer, ArcelorMittal, FTI Consulting, Fleishman Hillard, Alstom, Engie, Air Liquide, Toyota, Gas for Climate consortium, Gas Infrastructure Europe on the other, in which the the Hydrogen strategy was addressed.

3 - minutes of the meetings mentioned above ”

This reply relates only to the documents held by the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs and by the Cabinet of Commissioner Breton.

2. Identification and assessment of the concerned documents

We have identified 8 documents and their attachments, that fall within the scope of your request.

You will find attached a table listing the identified documents and summarizing the outcome of the assessment carried out on the basis of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

A complete disclosure of the identified documents is prevented by the exception concerning the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual outlined in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, because they contain the following personal data:

- the names/initials and contact information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management;
- the names/initials and contact details of other natural persons;
- other information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person, such as e-mail addresses.

3. Reasons for partial access

Article 9(1)(b) of the Data Protection Regulation does not allow the transmission of these personal data, except if you prove that it is necessary to have the data transmitted to you for a specific purpose in the public interest and where there is no reason to assume that the legitimate interests of the data subject might be prejudiced. In your request, you do not express any particular interest to have access to these personal data nor do you put forward any arguments to establish the necessity to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest.

Consequently, I conclude that, pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access cannot be granted to the personal data contained in the requested documents, as the need to obtain access thereto for a purpose in the public interest has not been substantiated and there is no reason to think that the legitimate interests of the individuals concerned would not be prejudiced by disclosure of the personal data concerned.

In case you would disagree with this position, you are entitled, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, to submit a confirmatory application requesting the Commission to review this position.

4. Means of redress

Such a confirmatory application should be addressed within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretariat-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Secretariat-General

Unit C.1. 'Transparency, Document Management and Access to Documents'
BERL 7/076
B-1049 Brussels, or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,

(e-signed)

Matthias SCHMIDT- GERDTS
Head of Unit