

**From:** [REDACTED] gasnaturally.eu>  
**Sent:** mercredi 3 mars 2021 12:54  
**To:** CAB TIMMERMANS CONTACT  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (CAB-TIMMERMANS)  
**Subject:** Meeting Request - GasNaturally

Dear Vice-President Timmermans,

As [REDACTED], a partnership of eight associations from across the whole gas value chain, and [REDACTED] of Wintershall Dea, I am writing to thank you for your kind and thorough reply to the October 2020 [letter](#) signed by 58 CEOs of the gas industry calling on the EU institutions to ensure that all EU financial mechanisms recognize gas as an indispensable part of the energy transition towards a carbon neutral economy in 2050.

I would be delighted to take up on your kind invitation to have a further exchange of views on how to best achieve the objectives of the European Green Deal, particularly on two subjects that are crucial for the implementation of the gas value chain decarbonisation strategies: the EU Taxonomy and the TEN-E Regulation.

We are aware that the Commission is currently finalising the text of the first delegated act establishing the actual list of environmentally sustainable activities by defining technical screening criteria for climate adaptation and mitigation. We are also acutely aware that if gaseous fuels will have a role to play in the clean energy transition on the way to 2030 and 2050, and also in the longer term, as you also emphasised in your message, we believe the delegated act should recognise natural gas as an enabling/transitional activity contributing towards climate neutrality and sustainable mobility, as the European Council on 18 December 2020 did. We believe this would ensure industry with clear perspective to finance itself in an affordable way and to be rewarded for investing in the best available solutions. Particularly, natural gas can continue displacing coal in power generation and heating, while integrating growing variable renewable electricity to ensure system stability.

We would also like to emphasize how the ongoing revision of the TEN-E framework, aimed at modernising and upgrading the gas networks infrastructure in line with the Green Deal objectives, should promote the most advanced carbon capture use and storage (CCUS)

technologies. While the TEN-E has already helped further industrial decarbonisation since its creation in 2013, the EU has the potential to do more. CO2 infrastructure and storage connecting European industrial clusters is needed, particularly as geological storage sites are not evenly distributed amongst the Member States. Such investments to modernise and expand gas transport infrastructure would also create jobs and maintain competitiveness in a low-carbon world.

Together with the [REDACTED] and other members, I would be delighted to have the opportunity to discuss with you in more detail the abovementioned issues. **We would be pleased to contact your Cabinet to explore any availabilities on your side in the coming weeks, given the urgency of the files.**

Thank you very much for your consideration of our request,

Best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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