



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION

Employment and Social Governance
Social Dialogue

Brussels,
EMPL.A.2/KH/ah/(2021)4436603

Mr Barnabe PACE
Global Witness
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Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2021/3778

Dear Sir,

We refer to your e-mail of 09 June 2021 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 09 June 2021 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to the following:

All documents—including but not limited to correspondence, emails, minutes, notes (hand written or electronic), audio or video recordings, verbatim reports, operational conclusions, lines to take, briefings, and presentations—related to the meeting or meetings on May 11 2021 between, Nicolas Schmit, Anouk Faber, Christoph Nerlich, Gas Networks Ireland and EUROGAS aisbl.

Your application concerns the following document:

- Briefing for Commissioner Schmit: “Pact for Skills: Roundtable with the renewable energy ecosystem”; 11/05/2021, prepared by the Cabinet of the Commissioner (Ares(2021)3457376.

With regard to the briefing listed above, a complete disclosure of the identified document 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;

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 document, 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.

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 faithfully,

Jörg Tagger
Head of Unit