



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY

Directorate A – Energy policy: Strategy and Coordination  
A.1 – Interinstitutional, Policy Coordination and Planning

Brussels , 17/08/2022  
ENER.A.1/MP/(2022)6402725

Mr CRANSTON Alex  
1 Long Ln, London

by email: ask+request-9677-  
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**Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2021/4214**

Dear Sir,

We refer to your e-mail of 25 June 2021 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 25 June 2021 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to *all documentation (including but not limited to all email correspondence, attendance lists, agendas, background papers, transcripts, recordings and minutes/notes) relating to the meeting listed below:*

*1. Between the European Forest Institute (EFI) and Thor-Sten Vertmann, Stefano Grassi, Laure Chapuis-Kombos, cabinet members of Commissioner Kadri Simson on 24/06/2021 to discuss the use of woody biomass.*

Your application concerns the following documents:

- 1. mail exchange for a MEETING REQUEST LC and other members 24-28-31/05 or 03/06/2021 - with EFI representatives on Causes of declining forest biodiversity (19/05/2021)*
- 2. minutes of the Meeting Stefano Grassi - Laure Chapuis with EFI Director Marc Palahi and Prof Goran Berndes, Chalmers University of Technology (24/06/2021).*

I am glad to inform you that you can have wide partial access to all documents, subject only to the redaction of personal data. Please find enclosed redacted copies of these documents.

With regard to the documents listed above, 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.

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.

Please note that documents originating from third parties are disclosed to you based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. However, this disclosure is without prejudice to the rules on intellectual property, which may limit your right to reproduce or exploit the released documents without the agreement of the originator, who may hold an intellectual property right on them. The European Commission does not assume any responsibility from their reuse.

Access is granted to minutes of a videoconference with external parties. This document was drawn up for internal use under the responsibility of the relevant service. It solely reflects the service's interpretation of the interventions made and does not set out any official position of the third parties to which the document refers, which was not consulted on its content. It does not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such.

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](mailto:sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu)

Yours faithfully,

Electronically signed

(p.o. Guus van de Schouw)  
Paula Abreu Marques  
Head of Unit