EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
CLIMATE ACTION

Legal Affairs, Inter-Institutional Relations & Communication

Brussels

Paula Castro
1 Long Ln,
London SE1 4PG
United Kingdom

Email: ask+request-9758-
d60336cc@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2021/4562

Dear Ms Castro,

We refer to your e-mail dated 9 July 2021 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered 15 July 2021 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You requested access to "*documents that contain the following information:*

1) All correspondence, including emails, sent and received since 01/01/2020, between the Commissioner for Climate Action, his cabinet, his officials, and any other representatives of DG CLIMA, and representatives from the German Association of the Automotive Industry – (VDA)".

We identified the following documents within the scope of your application:

	Author	Date	Reference
1	VDA	December 2019	Ares(2020)144537
2	European Commission	4 February 2020	Ares(2020)694871
3	VDA	27 November 2020	Ares(2020)7150453
4	VDA	27 November 2020	Ares(2020)7150453
5	VDA	27 November 2020	Ares(2020)7150453
6	VDA	27 November 2020	Ares(2020)7154182
7	VDA	27 November 2020	Ares(2020)7154182
8	VDA	27 November 2020	Ares(2020)7154182

9	European Commission	8 February 2021	Ares(2021)1090350
10	VDA	28 May 2021	Ares(2021)3542294
11	VDA	28 May 2021	Ares(2021)3542294
12	VDA	28 May 2021	Ares(2021)3542294
13	VDA	28 May 2021	Ares(2021)3542294
14	VDA	28 May 2021	Ares(2021)3542933
15	VDA/ European Commission	31 May 2021	Ares(2021)3542933
16	VDA	28 June 2021	Ares(2021)4199044
17	VDA	28 June 2021	Ares(2021)4199044
18	European Commission	6 July 2021	Ares(2021)4386859
19	European Commission	8July 2021	Ares(2021)4443399
20	VDA	4 August 2021	Ares(2021)4963761
21	VDA	11 August 2021	Ares(2021)5062271
22	VDA/European Commission	11 August 2021	Ares(2021)5062271

Following an examination of the documents under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, I regret to inform you that a complete disclosure of the documents 1-3, 5-7, 10-11 and 13-22 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 it contains: names and contact information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management; names and contact details of other natural persons and other information relating to an identified or identifiable 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 above-mentioned 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.

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)

Luca De Carli

Head of Unit