

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Action 3.8.4-0003-RO-W-M-17 - "Internal line between Cernavoda and Stalpu (PCI 3.8.4)"  
**Attachments:** 3.8.4-0003-RO-W-M-17\_AnnexI\_\_AnnexIII.docx

Dear [REDACTED],

Following the call for proposals of 26th April 2017 concerning projects of common interest under the Connecting Europe Facility in the field of energy, on 25th January 2018 the CEF Coordination Committee gave a positive opinion on a list of Actions proposed for funding.

We are happy to inform you that this list also includes Action n° 3.8.4-0003-RO-W-M-17 - Internal line between Cernavoda and Stalpu (PCI 3.8.4)

For your information, you will find at the bottom of this email the overall comments regarding the proposal as provided by the Evaluation Committee. Information regarding the marks awarded to the proposal may be communicated upon request.

Without prejudice to the final decision to be taken by the European Commission in the coming weeks, and in order to facilitate the next steps, please find attached a first draft version of annex I and III of the Grant Agreement for your review. We would be grateful to receive your comments and/or modifications on this draft by **5th February 2018** in order to accelerate the preparation and signature of the Grant Agreement.

I take this opportunity to request that you provide us with the following information:

- The name and title of the person who will sign the Grant Agreement.
- The contact details and the name and title for the contact person

Furthermore, we would like to invite you for a meeting on **9th February 2018 at 14:00-18:00** at INEA in Brussels. The purpose of this meeting will be to clarify any open questions on the revised draft Grant Agreement, for you to provide us with an updated presentation of the envisaged Action and to discuss a number of specific elements concerning its implementation (objectives, description of activities and milestones etc.). Depending on your preferred arrangements, a video conference could alternatively be organised to serve the same purpose. For planning purposes, we would be grateful to receive confirmation of your availability for the meeting by **2nd February 2018**.

I would like to highlight that this e-mail does not constitute a formal commitment by INEA or the European Commission to provide financial support to the envisaged Action. This will depend on the successful conclusion of the grant preparation process. I would like to draw your attention to the fact that you will not acquire any rights until all parties have signed the grant agreement.

For further correspondence, please always indicate the Action code, i.e. 3.8.4-0003-RO-W-M-17 in subject and only use the functional mailbox [INEA-CEF-xxxxxxxxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx](mailto:INEA-CEF-xxxxxxxxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx) (please don't reply to the EC ARES NOREPLY email address).

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or clarifications on this matter.

I look forward to your reply at your earliest convenience (see also comment below from the evaluation committee).

Best regards,

[Redacted signature block]



**European Commission**

Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA)

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[Redacted contact information]

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## Overall comments

The action is part of the cluster 3.8. Bulgaria –Romania [currently known as "Black sea Corridor"]. The proposal will contribute to the reinforcement of the Romania transmission system, better connecting the Black Sea area.

The action will contribute to an increase of cross-border transfer capacity between Romania and Bulgaria.

Overall, the proposal would have significantly benefitted from more quantification, more substantiation and other supporting documentation to justify or substantiate the evaluation criteria defined in the Regulation (EU) 1316/2013.

The proposal elaborates on positive externalities such as macro-regional security of supply (SoS), including market integration by reinforcing transmission infrastructure. However, no accurate information with regards to SoS and market integration was provided in the proposal.

The proposal demonstrates poorly how (e.g, most obvious) Bulgaria is positively affected by the action in a quantified way.

The need to overcome financial obstacles is demonstrated in a good manner, yet the stimulating effect of the Union's financing could have been better demonstrated.

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The proposal is of high political priority, the action is embedded in a cluster of projects with significant positive impact for the region, and the project will contribute to reaching the 10% interconnectivity target for Romania and Bulgaria.

The proposal is recommended for funding.