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EUROPEAN COMMISSION
 DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
 CLIMATE ACTION
 Directorate C - Climate Strategy, Governance and Emissions from non-trading sectors
CLIMA.C.1 - Strategy and Economic Assessment

Brussels, 31/1/2020

NOTE TO THE FILE

Subject: Meeting between Clara de la Torre and EUROGAS on 29 January 2020

Participants:

- EUROGAS: Philippe Sauquet (President), [REDACTED]
- DG CLIMA: Clara de la Torre (Deputy Director General), [REDACTED]

Discussion:

EUROGAS informed DG CLIMA that it strongly supports the long-term vision of a carbon neutral economy by 2050 and believes their sector is key for the transition. In the short to medium term, coal power plants and general use of coal should switch to natural gas, delivering significant emission reductions and efficiency gains, supporting the integration of renewables and ensuring security of supply. In the long term natural gas should be replaced by clean gases (biomethane, hydrogen, e-gas).

EUROGAS noted that in their recent contacts with international stakeholders, they see the leading role of Europe in this transition and waiting for its example in decarbonising its energy system.

DG CLIMA agreed on the importance of clean gases, noting that it supports technology neutrality but under strict CO₂ performance criteria. EUROGAS agreed, noting that we can only gradually introduce clean gases, therefore we should start with blending.

DG CLIMA and EUROGAS then exchanged views on the proposals in the European Green Deal and the foreseen actions in the Green Deal Action Plan.



Cc: C. de la Torre, [REDACTED]