

Brussels

Frida Kieninger, Food & Water Action Europe Rue d'Edimbourg 26 1050 Ixelles Belgium

Advance copy by email: <u>ask+request-8396-</u> eea9bf02@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2020/4580

Dear Ms Kieninger,

We refer to your e-mail dated 24 July 2020 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 27 July 2020 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You requested access to:

- i. All correspondence (including email) between 1st December 2019 and 12 July 2020 between Commissioner Timmermans, and/or their cabinets and/or officials from DG CLIMA on one hand and representatives from IOGP, Shell, Total, BP, Equinor, ZEP, the Global CCS Institute, Hydrogen Europe, the Hydrogen Council, Business Europe, the European Roundtable for Industry, GasNaturally, Eurogás, ENTSO-G, Snam, Enagás, Fluxys, Open Grid Europe, GRTGaz, Teréga, Eurofer, ArcelorMittal, FTI Consulting, Fleishman Hillard, Alstom, Engie, Air Liquide, Toyota, Gas for Climate consortium, Gas Infrastructure Europe on the other, in which the revision of TEN-E was addressed.
- ii. List of meetings between 1st December 2019 and 12 July 2020 between officials and representatives of DG CLIMA on one hand and representatives from IOGP, Shell, Total, BP, Equinor, ZEP, the Global CCS Institute, Hydrogen Europe, the Hydrogen Council, Business Europe, the European Roundtable for Industry, GasNaturally, Eurogás, ENTSO-G, Snam, Enagás, Fluxys, Open Grid Europe, GRTGaz, Teréga, Eurofer, ArcelorMittal, FTI Consulting, Fleishman Hillard, Alstom, Engie, Air Liquide, Toyota, Gas for Climate consortium, Gas

Infrastructure Europe on the other, in which the revision of TEN-E was addressed.

iii. Minutes of the meetings mentioned above"

We have identified 39 documents that fall under the scope of your application. The list of identified documents is enclosed with this letter.

In accordance with Article 4(4) of Regulation (EC) 1049/2001, DG CLIMA has consulted those third parties concerning the disclosure of the requested documents emanating from them.

Please find the documents enclosed with this letter. However, I regret to inform you that I cannot grant access to documents 30 and 36 and some parts of documents 1, 3-16, 18-20, 22-28, 31, 38 and 39.

A complete disclosure of the above-mentioned 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: 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 person.

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.

As regards documents 30 and 36, in the course of the consultation the third party indicated partial access is not possible because the documents are "personal exchanges of emails with private aspects". The disclosure of these two documents is prevented under the exception of the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual as set out in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

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

BERL 7/076
B-1049 Brussels, or by email to: <u>sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu</u>
Yours sincerely,
Tours shicerery,
(e-signed)
Mauro PETRICCIONE

Unit C.1. 'Transparency, Document Management and Access to Documents'