

Cabinet of Commissioner Kadri SIMSON - Minutes of Meeting

Title	Meeting with Vattenfall on the revision of the Renewable Energy Directive (forest biomass)
Date	12-01-2023
Participants	Ext : ██████████ (Vattenfall) COM: Barbara Glowacka (Cabinet Simson), ██████████ (Cabinet Timmermans), ██████████ (DG ENER)
	Ares initial request :
	Disclosure authorization : <input type="checkbox"/> YES - <input type="checkbox"/> NO - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partial (pls highlight unauthorized parts)
Issues raised & follow-up	<p>The meeting was held at the request of Vattenfall that expressed concerns regarding the position of the European Parliament in the on-going negotiations of the Renewable Energy Directive regarding the use of forest biomass to produce energy.</p> <p>Vattenfall operates district heating and cooling grids in Sweden, Germany (Berlin, where coal is to be phased out by 2030) and The Netherlands. It is committed to reach net-zero emissions by 2040, and plans to replace fossil fuels with alternatives such as third-party excess heat integration, renewable-based power-to-heat, geothermal and green hydrogen, but also by increasing the use of biomass until zero-emission alternatives are available at sufficient scale.</p> <p>It is therefore concerned with the EP proposals to cap the contribution of primary woody biomass to the EU renewable energy target at 2017-2022 consumption levels and to remove financial support to the energy use of that feedstock. ██████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>Vattenfall described the constraints associated with using any of the above-mentioned other energy sources (timing of deployment, ability to provide baseload ...) and stressed the need to be able to provide heating at an affordable price. ██████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>The Commission explained its understanding of the objective pursued by the European Parliament and took note of the concerns voiced by Vattenfall.</p>