



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP
AND SMES

The Director-General

Brussels
GROW.B.1

Mr Moritz Neujeffski
Heidebrinker Straße 10
13357 Berlin
Germany

By e-mail: ask+request-11815-
0cdbe2a7@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref. 2022/5110

Dear Mr Neujeffski,

We refer to your e-mail of 9 September 2022 and to your e-mail of 19 September 2022 clarifying your request and registered the same day, in which you make a request for access to documents under the above-mentioned reference number.

You initially requested access to:

- 1. Letters of formal notice or draft letters of formal notification by the European Commission or any other communication between the European Commission and the Dutch government, regarding the Dutch government's plan to phase out its natural gas production (as described, for example, in this newspaper article: [https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.reuters.com/article/us-netherlands-gas-idUSKCN1VVIKE_!!DOxrgLBm!Ah_BGolw6lqlfkDXQD5P27p50Ggq7JQ_qKxc1P-hzQh2rJ0cKONxizvCITecs5X89_e99G3NBNnQ_RxYpNNGb0Pks2o-o5Nfy3ozNdfmY9jA\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.reuters.com/article/us-netherlands-gas-idUSKCN1VVIKE_!!DOxrgLBm!Ah_BGolw6lqlfkDXQD5P27p50Ggq7JQ_qKxc1P-hzQh2rJ0cKONxizvCITecs5X89_e99G3NBNnQ_RxYpNNGb0Pks2o-o5Nfy3ozNdfmY9jA$))*
- 2. A list of meetings and communications (including E-mails) between the European Commission and representatives of the gas industry discussing the above mentioned Dutch government's plan to phase out its natural gas production.*

With the following clarification:

- In terms of my first question I am requesting any and all correspondence (including email) between DG GROW and the Dutch government regarding the Dutch plan to phase out natural gas production. This may or may not include (draft) letters of formal notice sent by the Commission as part of potential EU infringement procedures.*
- Regarding the levels of meeting and communications please focus on DG GROW. In case such a list of meetings and correspondence does not exist, I believe that composing of such an overview list is within the scope of a FOI request.*

We regret to inform you that the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description given in your application.

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the right of access as defined in that regulation applies only to existing documents in the possession of the institution.

Given that no such documents, corresponding to the description given in your application, are held by DG GROW, DG GROW is not in a position to fulfil your request.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, you are entitled to make 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 Secretary-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 faithfully,

Electronically signed

Kerstin Jorna
Director-General