



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

Directorate B – Fair and Sustainable Economy
Circular Economy and Sustainable Industry

Seville
JRC.F/CN

Ms Vicky Cann
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Subject: Your application for access to documents 2024/0535

Dear Ms Cann,

We refer to your request for access to European Commission documents registered on 29 January 2024 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to

*“1. A list of all meetings/ discussions since 1 January 2023 between officials and or Commissioners with businesses, trade associations, or think tanks where this topic was discussed.
2. Any records, minutes, preparatory briefings, or other notes of these meetings/discussions.
3. All correspondence since 1 January 2023, where this topic was discussed, exchanged between officials and or Commissioners with businesses, trade associations, or think tanks.”*

Please note that this reply relates only to the documents held by the Joint Research Centre. You will receive in due course the replies from the other Directorates-General to which you also addressed your request.

From our side, only one document has been identified under your request, the presentation made by the JRC at the Conference *“PFAS: Global regulations, restrictions and alternatives”* (5 December 2023), organised by Chemical Watch, registration Ares(2024)1197847.

As regards the exchanges with stakeholders in the context of the review of the Best Available Techniques (BAT) reference documents (BREFs), which were mentioned in our previous communications, a careful analysis of all exchanges has indicated that there has been no contact with industries in the scope of the request.

The complete disclosure of the document indicated above is however 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 it contains personal data of the name and contact information of a Commission staff member not pertaining to the senior management.

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.

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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 to the Secretariat-General of the Commission within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter. You can submit it **via your EASE portal¹ account**.

Yours faithfully,

Caroline LAMBERT
Head of Unit

Enclosure: Presentation

¹ <https://www.ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-request>