



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Secretariat-General
Deputy Secretary-General

Brussels,
BARROSO (2012) 1381284
BARROSO (2012)

Ms Agnieszka KOMOCH
Acting Director
Friends of the Earth Europe

E-mail: paul@milieudefensie.nl

Dear Ms Komoch,

The President of the Commission, Mr José Manuel Barroso, asked me to thank you for your letter of 21 November, sent on behalf of the ALTER-EU steering group, about the high level group of independent stakeholders on administrative burdens.

The high level group advises the Commission on reducing administrative burdens resulting from EU legislation in the context of the EU's action programme for reducing administrative burdens. It advises on suggestions, comments and complaints from stakeholders, such as citizens, businesses, business organisations and non-governmental organisations. The group shares this input with the Commission for further analysis and some is taken up in opinions, which the group publishes.

The stakeholders' input normally concerns existing rules and regulations. However, as the Commission publishes its intentions concerning new initiatives or amendments of existing legislation in the form of roadmaps which are available for public scrutiny, stakeholders sometimes make reference to upcoming legislation. This was the situation in the case that you mention. Dr Stoiber flagged the stakeholder's concern in a general way with Mr John Dalli, former Member of the Commission responsible for health and consumer policy, in an open and transparent manner at the group meeting on 3 May. The issue was not discussed further and has not been the subject of an opinion of the group.

The Commission attaches great importance to reducing administrative burdens and considers that the high level group provides valuable independent advice in this context. Their work is enhanced by consultation and interaction with stakeholders across a range of sectors, geographic areas and interests including businesses, social partners, consumer and environmental organisations.

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Your application for access to documents was registered on 26 November (reference GestDem 2012/5474) and will be handled in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Klingbeil', written in a cursive style.

Marianne KLINGBEIL