

Thilo Wieland
Member of the Board of Executive Directors
Wintershall Holding GmbH



The Energy, Utilities and Climate Committee
Folketinget
Christiansborg
1240 Copenhagen K

Denmark

Kassel, 20th February 2019

Dear Members of the Danish Parliament's Committee for Energy, Utilities and Climate,

As you are aware, Nord Stream 2 AG submitted on 10 August 2018 a permit application for the construction of an alternative route in the Danish exclusive economic zone north-west of Bornholm for the Nord Stream 2 pipeline system to the Danish Energy Agency.

Based on the thorough assessment of potential impacts, as well as the experience gathered during the construction and operation of the already existing Nord Stream pipeline system since 2011 (including the results of environmental monitoring), the planned new pipeline system on the alternative route is assessed by the project company to have minimal environmental impacts. Being another and eco-efficient supply route for natural gas from Russia, we are convinced, that Nord Stream 2 will provide significant additional options for gas traders and European customers to cover the increasing import supply gap on a competitive basis.

Clean-burning, low-emission natural gas is a vital component in an economically sensible decarbonization pathway for the transition of the European energy system into the age of renewable energies. The German coal-fired power plants are set to be phased out by 2038, but the role of natural gas, on the other hand, will be strengthened. The natural gas industry can make the energy transition a success. With its storage facilities, pipelines and gas-fired power plants, we're ready to secure the electricity market after the planned phasing out of nuclear and coal-fired power. For this transition, Nord Stream 2 will provide access to a quick and cost-effective way to reduce emissions – additional natural gas to replace coal in Europe and especially in Germany. That's good news for the climate!

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A delay in permitting would directly negatively impact the European climate targets and Paris agreement on the one hand and the competitiveness of the European industry on the other hand. In addition, the Nord Stream 2 pipeline system would save more than 2.6 million tons of carbon dioxide every year compared to other pipeline systems bringing Russian gas to Europe. As it is a common understanding emission savings should be realized as soon as possible.

As a company conducting business all over the world, free international trade and investment is of pivotal importance to us. With that follows a need for investment reliability and legal certainty.

We are always happy to provide you with further information, gladly also in a personal conversation, about our understanding of the importance of the Danish permitting process for the ability to support the European / German climate targets and the coal-to-gas-switch.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thilo Wieland".

Thilo Wieland
Member of the Board of Executive Directors