



Brussels, 30 May 2018

**Subject:** Invitation to the policy session on "*How do new technologies help communities engage and understand the local value of energy infrastructure projects*"

Dear [REDACTED],

It is my pleasure to invite you as panellist in our policy session organised under the umbrella of the EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW), which is taking place this year between the 4th and the 8th of June.

The event is scheduled on **Wednesday 6 June 2018 from 14.00 to 15.30** in room **Jenkins in the Charlemagne Building**, Brussels.

This year's session will address public acceptance from a new perspective trying to look into **how new technologies help citizens and communities engage and understand the local value of energy infrastructure projects**. The panel session will be moderated by [REDACTED], Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the Renewables Grid Initiative.

We would like to invite you to share Google's vision on empowering citizens and local communities through new technologies. Your perspective would focus on the degree to which technologies raise awareness of infrastructure planning and its benefits to local communities and can become a gateway for impactful participatory methods.

Increasing societal acceptance of energy infrastructure is crucial to the timely implementation of our Projects of Common Interest (PCIs). Transparency and communication are essential in the process, and it implies that citizens and other stakeholders must be made aware of the added value and benefits brought by the projects at the community level or through a positive impact on their energy bills.

New technologies help disseminate the information and improve access to relevant data in a real-time interactive manner. These technologies support inclusiveness and empower citizens in becoming actors enacting change from merely passive respondents.

The panel discussion will feature best practices in deploying new tools which use technical & spatial data for early public engagement and awareness and will explore means for citizens to be informed on the local benefits that energy infrastructure projects can have in their communities.

My services will be in close contact with you in order to efficiently prepare in advance the session.

Thank you for considering our invitation. We would kindly appreciate if you could confirm your attendance as soon as possible by sending an e-mail to [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu together with a short biography.

I am looking forward to welcoming you in Brussels on 6 June at the EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW).

Yours sincerely,

A large rectangular grey box redacting the signature of the sender.