Brussels, 3rd December 2009

Subject: Complaint by Friends of the Earth Europe against the European Commission for maladministration

This Complaint is made to the European Ombudsman by Friends of the Earth Europe (FoEE) in response to the failure by the European Commission to provide satisfying argumentation. In particular, FoEE earlier used the complaint mechanism of the Commission’s register of interest representatives to complain about the registration of BUSINESSEUROPE (BE). The Secretariat General of the Commission rejected this complaint while failing to provide explanation or argumentation. Moreover, the European Commission blackened out parts of the information that it provided to FoEE about BE, without reasoning for not providing the full information.

The following annexes are submitted with this complaint:
Annex 1: FoEE complaint to the Commission, dated April 10, 2009
Annex 2: FoEE letter to BE, dated January 28, 2009 (copy)
Annex 3: First response from the Commission, dated May 5, 2009
Annex 4: FoEE request for further explanation, dated May 7, 2009
Annex 5: Second response from the Commission, dated May 13, 2009
Annex 6: Response from the Commission on Access to Document request, dated June 29, 2009

We look forward to your decision. If you wish to be in touch with FoEE concerning this complaint, please contact:

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Yours sincerely,

Paul de Clerck
Friends of the Earth Europe