

March 23, 2021

Response to: Pieridae Energy Limited - Cease and Desist Notice

I am writing to you as a recipient of two of your emails (which contained the attached documents).

This is my own personal response which can and should not be interpreted as a statement of any of the other addressees of your two emails, dating March 19, 2021.

I am a German citizen and I've co-signed (in solidarity and support) the attached letter to Prime Minister Trudeau and Nova Scotia Premier Iain Rankin.

I was not – nor am I – aware of being in breach of any law or legislation.

I was also not aware of any multi-party non-disclosure agreement between Pieridae Energy Limited and the governments of Canada, Alberta and Nova Scotia.

I am also not aware of have been or of being in contact with any individual that might have been aware of any multi-party non-disclosure agreement between Pieridae Energy Limited and the governments of Canada, Alberta and Nova Scotia and potential “confidential” material related to that – apart from you of course.

I was not – nor am I – aware of the fact that the people in Canada are not allowed to reach out to their elected officials to raise awareness about environmental/global warming impacts and financial risks related to fossil fuel projects that are 8 years in the planning phase and that rely, in particular, on public funding (loans or loan guarantees).

As you may know, Pieridae, is also trying to get approval for an Untied Loan Guarantee of up to US\$4.5 billion from the German federal government.

In your August 2020 Corporate Presentation (available on your website here <https://pieridaeenergy.com/sites/default/files/2021-02/Pieridae%20Corporate%20Profile.pdf>), you write that you’ve already achieved the “confirmation of eligibility in principle” for this loan guarantee. Referring to statements by your CEO Sorensen, Reuters reported in 2018 that *“Pieridae is finalising a loan guarantee of at least \$3 billion from the German government. The company is “very close” to securing enough committed sales to make a positive final investment decision, he said.”* (Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-canada-lng-axpo-idUKKBN1L127J>)

However, different parliamentary requests and FOIs have revealed that the German government has only granted a so-called Letter of Intent and that this letter is not legally binding. So yes, as a German citizen I do feel entitled and obliged to question the LNG Goldboro project in order to avoid damage for the climate and public budgets.

I did – and will do – this by referring to and by outlining existing facts and scientific evidence.

I was not aware that any information that may have been used was considered “confidential” – in particular given the apparent need for public funding for the LNG Goldboro project.

I have already reached out to the German ambassador to Canada, referring to your expressed legal threat and have asked for clarification in terms of the existing legal framework on the other side of the Atlantic.

Following questions might help to get a clearer understanding of what you actually want from me:

- Can you provide me with the mentioned multi-party non-disclosure agreement?
- Can you specify which information is actually confidential, why that is (please provide a reference to the corresponding legal basis) and how third-parties or the general public should be brought in the position to be aware of any existing confidentiality?
- Can you provide me with the legal basis of why I should be in breach of any existing law or legislation?

Finally, I want to draw your attention to the following:

In June 2019, the Human Rights Council published a report on climate change and poverty, highlighting that *“fossil fuel companies are the main driver of climate change”* and that *“the track record of the fossil fuel industry makes clear that overreliance on profit-driven actors would almost guarantee massive human rights violations”*.ⁱ

The Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights further points out that *“if climate change is used to justify business-friendly policies and widespread privatization, exploitation of natural resources and global warming may be accelerated rather than prevented.”*

I want to know, if you are of the opinion that the Human Rights Council published the report to deliberately cause economic damage to fossil fuel companies – such as Pieridae Energy Limited?

Signed
Andy Gheorghiu

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ⁱ UN Human Rights Council. „Climate Change and Poverty: Report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights“. 25 June 2019. Available at: https://srpovertyorg.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/unsr-poverty-climate-change-a_hrc_41_39.pdf