

Brussels,
(2021)7121873

Dear Minister,

Thank you for your letter of 8 October 2021 concerning the impact of rising gas prices on fertilizer prices and, consequently, on crop production and food prices.

We debated the worrying increase of gas prices and its possible impacts on the agricultural sector during the AGRIFISH Council held in Luxembourg on 11 and 12 October. As mentioned during this Council meeting, while stronger production prices in most of the agri-food sectors particularly for cereals, dairy, poultry-meat, fruit and vegetables may help cushion part of the sharp increase of input costs, the situation and especially the impact on farmers' income has to be followed very closely.

According to energy experts, current price increases are likely to be temporary. Wholesale gas prices are likely to remain high over the winter months and fall in the spring, when the situation is expected to stabilise. However, the prices would remain higher than the average of the past years.

My colleague Commissioner Simson presented on 13 October the Commission Communication on energy prices, which states that the spike in energy prices is primarily driven by the increased global demand for energy, in particular gas, linked to the global economy recovery. The Communication includes also a 'toolbox' that can be used for the mitigation of the impact of energy high prices on citizens and the economy, with a number of commitments for the Commission and recommendations to Member States.

From my side, I remain committed to ensuring that the Common Agricultural Policy will support our farmers in every possible way in their task of ensuring that consumers have continued access to safe, high quality and affordable food. The national Strategic Plans that Member States are currently designing should also reflect appropriately this challenge.

*Mr Grzegorz PUJA
Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development*

Yours sincerely,

Janusz WOJCIECHOWSKI

C.c: **Personal data**
Permanent Representation of the Republic of Poland to the European Union
Rue Stevin 139, 1000 Brussels
Personal data [@msz.gov.pl](mailto:msz.gov.pl)