

SIIM KALLAS
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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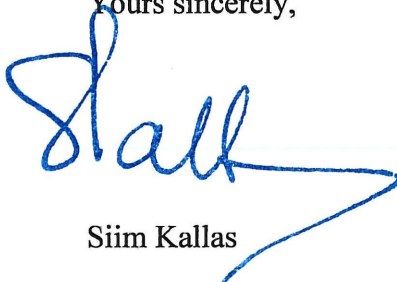
Ms. Doris Leuthard
Federal Councillor
Head of DETEC, the Federal Department
of the Environment, Transport, Energy
and Communications
Federal Palace North Wing
3003 Bern (Switzerland)

Dear Ms. Leuthard,

Thank you for your letter of 21 February 2014 in which you inform us about the upcoming need for a complete overhaul of the Gotthard road tunnel and the measures which the Swiss government plans to implement to absorb traffic during the refurbishment. We take note of the plans of the Swiss government to dig a second tube through the Gotthard which would be used as main tube while the existing one is being renovated. We understand that, after the renovation of the existing tube, one lane would be used for traffic in each of the two tubes, while the remaining space in the tubes would serve for emergency and maintenance purposes.

We consider this to be in line with Article 32 of the Agreement on the carriage of goods and passengers by rail and road, concluded between the EU and Switzerland in 1999.

Yours sincerely,



Siim Kallas