

Brussels, 17. 01. 2018  
JF/ Ares(2018)

**VIOLETA BULC**

Member of the European Commission

Mr Marco VALLI  
Member of the European Parliament

Mrs Daniela AIUTO  
Member of the European Parliament

Mrs Tiziana BEGHIN  
Member of the European Parliament

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Honourable Members,

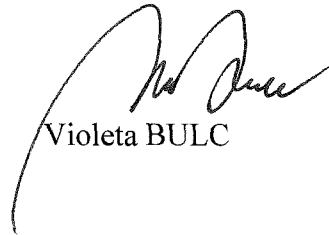
Thank you for your letter dated 22 November 2017 concerning the cross-border section of the new railway link Lyon-Turin.

The EU co-funding of the Lyon-Turin project has been agreed and is secured for the period 2016-2019. As is the case with all CEF funding only activities actually carried out within this period are eligible to be co-financed. The Commission services are in regular contact with the beneficiaries and the project promoter in order to assess the progress of the project including the absorption of EU funds allocated in accordance with the respective grant agreement. In 2018 the Commission services will carry out a review of the various projects in order to assess whether funds previously allocated will actually be used, studying carefully project by project all actions and milestones and the possible use within this MFF period, leading to an optimal use of the CEF instrument. As you know, it may ultimately lead to a reallocation to other projects pursuant to the "use-it-or-lose-it" principle.

The mid-term evaluation of the Connecting Europe Facility to which you refer to is a different exercise concerning the CEF programme in general. The evaluation has been completed and the report will be adopted by the Commission in the coming weeks and transmitted to the European Parliament and the Council immediately.

As far as the Lyon-Turin project is concerned I welcome the confirmation by both governments to continue this major infrastructure project, essential not only for the Mediterranean Corridor but the whole European Core Network.

Yours faithfully,



Violeta BULC