Subject: Just Transition Fund

The Just Transition Fund (JTF) is an instrument for delivering support to areas facing major challenges in socio-economic transition as they aim to become climate-neutral. Its main objective is to mitigate the impact of the changes by financing the diversification and modernisation of local economies and the negative effects on employment. This kind of support will be especially important for regions where the economy and employment are based to a large extent on coal mining. In the light of the above, I would like to ask the following:

1. Will municipalities in which new hard coal mines are opened during the period of operation of the JTF be able to benefit from the Fund? Would the opening of such a mine also have an impact on the possibility or extent of financing from the JTF at NUTS2 level?

2. If the coal sector is restructured, will the Member States be able to allocate JTF funds only to support the activities and impact of the restructuring and the closure of state-owned mines, or will it also be possible for them to support enterprises and workers in the private sector?