WRITTEN QUESTION E-3212/09 by Marian Harkin (ALDE) to the Commission

Subject: Forestry payments

The Irish Government has recently introduced an 8 % cut in forestry premia payments to Irish farmers. Given that many farmers entered agreements for 20 years and because of replanting obligations they have effectively locked their land into forestry in perpetuity, does the Commission have any role within the context of the Rural Development Regulation in ensuring that legal agreements entered into with farmers are upheld by the Irish Government?

781653.EN PE 425.236