

**Question for written answer E-007685/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Francesc Gambús (PPE)**

Subject: Impact of gas storage unit

On 3 October 2014 the Spanish Government took the decision to award EUR 1.35 billion in compensation to the company owning the gas storage unit located at the 'Castor' facility. The company's operations were directly linked to more than 500 earthquakes in Catalonia and Valencia, but the local populations have not received any reimbursement whatsoever for the damage caused. What is more, the government ruled that the company's compensation would be paid for out of the public purse through energy bills.

In the view of the Commission, does the solution adopted by the Spanish Government comply with EU legislation?

What is the Commission's view of the fact that the abovementioned levy is greater than the budget for investment in an Autonomous Community which accounts for 20 % of Spanish GDP?

From a consumer protection standpoint, what is its view of the impact on users' energy bills?