

**Question for written answer E-010895/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: ENEL [Italian Electricity Authority] power station at Valle del Mercure

The Pollino National Park, located between Calabria and Basilicata, is a Special Protection Area (SPA) under Directive 79/409/EC (as amended), within which the ENEL is recommissioning a power station, decommissioned in 1997, and converting it to biomass. The 41 MW power station requires a substantial quantity of virgin wood, generating an unsustainable impact in terms of biodiversity in the Park.

The Pollino National Park Authority, a local government entity, has expressed a negative opinion on the project and it has been repeatedly thrown out by the Italian judiciary.

There have been media reports of a risk of criminal infiltration, given that the ENEL's main biomass supplier has on several occasions been the subject of restrictive measures due to its association with the Calabrian criminal underworld.

This project does not meet the requirements of Community regulations, in this case the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) required under Directive 2011/92/EU; the environmental implications assessments are also out of date.

In addition, the project fails to mention the harmful impact of emissions on public health and the negative repercussions on tourism and agriculture in the area.

In the light of the above, what action does the Commission intend to take, given that the project breaches Directives 79/409/EC (as amended), 2011/92/EU and 92/43/EC?