

**Question for written answer E-002787/2015
to the Council**

Rule 130

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Subject: Amendment of EU directives on fuel quality and renewable energy

The Commission is seeking to amend the EU directives on fuel quality and renewable energies (indirect change in land use).

This news alone has already been enough to discourage numerous manufacturers and investors who have been moving towards biofuels, which are of key importance in reducing our dependence on fossil energy. We are therefore particularly concerned at the refusal of DG CLIMA to meet with ethanol producers.

While we are aware that the rapid development of biofuels may, in certain parts of the world, have undermined food crops and the security of food supply for local populations or caused deforestation to an alarming degree, this is not the case in Europe.

Despite the fact that the development of biofuels has been giving rise to hopes of greater energy independence for the EU Member States, while providing a substantial source of income for EU farmers, the Commission has suddenly called a halt on the basis of contestable and contested scientific evidence (ILUC calculations).

What view does the Council take of this?

EU farmers already severely affected by the Russian response to EU sanctions are awaiting clear answers.