Question for written answer E-003552/2015 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Gas storage at Lodi funded by EFSI

Within the scope of the projects put forward by Italy for funding under the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), the European Commission has received a list which includes a proposal for the construction of a gas storage facility in the municipality of Cornegliano Laudense, in the province of Lodi.

It is intended to construct a natural reservoir beneath a densely populated area (around 3 000 inhabitants) and the mining concession covers five municipalities with an estimated 60 000 inhabitants.

Considering that the project construction area also presents a specific seismic risk, and also in view of the failure of Project Castor in Spain, funded by project bonds from the European Investment Bank (EIB), does the Commission not consider it harmful and counterproductive to insist on supporting initiatives of this scale?

Considering also that the energy nature of this project does not fall within the stated priorities of the EU for green, sustainable growth, does the European Commission consider it acceptable to include this project in the list of possible construction projects to be funded through EFSI?

1052724.EN PE 551.499