

**Question for written answer E-004111/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ernest Maragall (Verts/ALE)

Subject: The Castor project and the EFSI

The project for undersea gas storage in Spain – known as the Castor project – was financed by European Investment Bank (EIB) project-finance bonds, but the taxpayer has ended up footing the bill because it has been shown to be inviable and the government has cancelled the concession, ‘compensating’ the licensee with EUR 1.35 billion.

What mechanism does the Commission envisage for the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) to rule out any projects guaranteed by state assets or with guarantees of public demand that could lead to a similar situation?