Question for written answer E-004168/2015 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Environmental radioactivity around the 'former Liquichimica' area in the Tito Scalo Industrial Zone (Province of Potenza, Italy)

There is a dump containing radioactive phosphogypsums and other highly polluting materials at the Tito Scalo Industrial Zone (Province of Potenza), which is in a densely populated area. Radiometric inspections carried out by ARPAB Basilicata indicate the presence in the area of soil/phosphogypsums with an Ra-226 neutron content of between 459 and 2 461 Bq/kg, which is much higher than the legal limit. A deposit of phosphogypsums can cause pollution of aquifers due to the leaching of radionuclides, exhalation of radioactive dusts through resuspension of the dry material, and direct exposure to gamma and neutron radiation.

CIPE Resolution No 87/2012 allocated sizeable resources from the Italian Fund for Development and Cohesion (FSC 2007-2013) to clean up the SIN Tito area, but the Consorzio ASI Potenza, which was to conduct the work, has still not made the area safe.

In the light of Directive 96/29/Euratom and Directive 2004/35/EC, what is the Commission planning to do to protect the local population from exposure to radiation and radioactive contamination?

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