Question for written answer E-007310/2015 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Monitoring protective measures against dioxin contamination

Human dioxin contamination is a serious public health issue. The source of contamination is primarily waste incineration, and to a lesser extent the food chain. Its economic impact on the food production industry is very significant – in 2011, dioxin contamination led to more than 4 700 German farms being shut down.

For a long while, the Commission has been attempting to put controls in place to ensure improved human safety. However, the directive of 24 November 2010 on industrial emissions (preamble 40) broaches the possibility, in the case of waste incineration plants, of empowering the Commission to establish criteria to allow derogations from continuous monitoring of total dust emissions, which are in principle (Annex 5) set at two measurements per year.

This text leaves much uncertainty regarding the effective monitoring of dioxin levels.

- 1. What are the criteria for derogation defined by the Commission?
- 2. Are these measures being effectively applied in the different Member States, and what proportion of incinerators are being monitored?

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