

**Question for written answer E-010427/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Bart Staes (Verts/ALE)

Subject: The Juncker investment plan should not support the Oosterweel link

The Flemish Government identifies six priority areas in the context of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI).¹ One of these priorities is the construction of the Oosterweel link, to complete the Antwerp ring road. This forms part of the Masterplan 2020². The environmental impact report on the Oosterweel link shows that the route scores very poorly in terms of quality of life.³ One consequence would be higher NO₂ emissions. Meanwhile, alternatives have become available which would guarantee the quality of life in the city.⁴

Antwerp already fails to meet the European standard on nitrogen levels (40 µg/m³). Should the Oosterweel link therefore be eligible for EFSI support?

How will the Commission weigh the ecological sustainability of projects against the economic benefits?

¹ http://www2.vlaanderen.be/pps/documenten/150526_PM_EFSI_prioriteiten_VLAREG.pdf

² <http://www.vlaanderen.be/nl/mobiliteit-en-openbare-werken/wegen/masterplan-2020-voor-de-mobiliteit-en-rond-antwerpen>

³ https://www.oosterweelverbinding.be/_webdata/media-library/OWVAlgemeen/plan-mer1.pdf

⁴ <http://ringland.be/>