

**Question for written answer E-013117/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Ferrol water treatment plant built with EU funding but never used

A year ago a waste water treatment plant was opened at Cabo Prioriño (near Ferrol, Spain). Paid for with EU funding, it was designed to clean up waste water before that water was dumped into the already polluted Ferrol estuary. According to the previous town council, led by the *Partido Popular*, 1.5 million cubic metres of water had already been treated at the plant. However, the new council has revealed that the treatment plant was never fully operational and never treated any water, even though local people were paying for it. As a result, Ferrol town council is now considering suing the company responsible for fraudulent management of the treatment plant.

This is not only an environmental problem, and therefore something the EU has the power to deal with, but it can also be seen as fraud against the people of Ferrol and of Europe as a whole, given that 85% of the funding for the plant came from the EU.

Is the Commission aware of this situation?

What steps does the Commission intend to take, given that the plant was paid for with EU funding?

Will the Commission ask those responsible to provide explanations, and to repay any money obtained fraudulently?