

**Question for written answer E-003743/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Detention basins by the Seveso river - risks to the environment and to human health

In 2009, ARPA Lombardia classified the water of the Seveso river as 'poor quality and unsuitable for any kind of use' owing to the presence of heavy metals (Ni, Hg and Zn). The impact assessment carried out in 2014 on the plans to build detention basins in the municipality of Senago, which also revealed concentrations of hexavalent chromium (CrVI) over the legal limit, confirmed the 'bad/poor' state of the body of water north of Milan.

The EIA (Decision No 1829/2015 of the Region of Lombardy) stipulates that the sediment in the basins must be removed once it has reached 30 cm in thickness. This does not, however, prevent CrVI from being released into the environment over long periods of time as a result of the continuous action of atmospheric agents, thereby releasing a carcinogenic substance as stated by the *International Agency for Research on Cancer*(IARC).

Does the Commission believe that the release of CrVI in the vicinity of the basins could pose a risk to the environment and to human health?

How does the Commission assess the conditions of the Seveso with regard to the objectives of Directive 2000/60/EC and the standards in Directive 2008/105/EC?