Question for written answer E-005121/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Mireille D'Ornano (ENF)

Subject: Impact of night working on public health

A report of 22 June 2016 by the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health Safety (ANSES) assesses the effects linked to night working in France. Sleepiness and a reduction in total sleeping time are 'established' effects. Cancer, a reduction in cognitive performance, obesity, diabetes and coronary disease are thought to be 'likely' effects. In addition, high blood pressure and strokes are considered to be 'possible' effects.

Added to this is the risk of accidents, which is accompanied by harsher working conditions, time constraints and more frequent tensions with colleagues, the public and in their private lives.

Finally, the social costs (absenteeism, childcare, etc.) of the employment of 3.5 million night workers, equivalent to 15 % of employees in 2012, have not been assessed, while night working is growing in the social sector and the services industry.

- 1. What data does the Commission have relating to the effects of night working on health?
- 2. Does the Commission recognise a link between the growing demands of productivity in the economy and the growth in night working?

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