

**Question for written answer E-005595/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Malga Melagon landfill site, Asiago (VI) - risk of groundwater contamination

In Malga Melagon, on the Plateau of Asiago (VI), a disused quarry is being used as a landfill site for municipal solid waste (MSW).

The limestone massif on which the landfill site is situated, between Natura 2 000 sites SCI-ZPS IT3220036 'Plateau of the Sette Comuni' and SCI IT322007 'River Brent from Trentino border to Cison del Grappa', is affected by epi-karst phenomena which lead to the formation of substantial underground caves (from bottom to top), which are gradually uncovered as the caverns collapse and layers of rock are quarried and removed.

Furthermore, the eastern side of the Plateau is perforated by a complex and partially-explored horizontal hypogeum, which is 2 500 metres long and forms part of the Oliero caves (in SCI IT322007). The sources of the Oliero basin karst springs, which supply water to the network of aqueducts in the Plateau's municipalities, can be found in these caves.

The geomorphological conditions in the area expose the quarry intended for landfill to the risk of leachate leakage which could contaminate the Oliero basin were the quarry to cave in.

In the light of the above, would the Commission agree that the landfill in question is jeopardising the conservation of the aforementioned Natura 2 000 sites, since it may be in breach of Directives 92/43/EEC and 2009/147/EU, and Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption?