

**Question for written answer E-008205/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Inclusion of the cost of dismantling nuclear plants and managing their waste in nuclear energy prices

The European Court of Auditors (ECA) estimates that the cost of closing down first generation nuclear power plants in Lithuania, Bulgaria and Slovakia, and managing their waste, could be as high as EUR 11.4 billion. What is more, these costs are not always recognised or included as provisions in the accounts, which, says the ECA, limits transparency and hampers the authorities' planning capacity.

The EU assumed responsibility for part of these costs in the accession treaties for these countries. The figures give an indication of the enormous sums involved in managing and disposing of radioactive waste from any nuclear power plant, sums which are nationalised in that they are funded by the taxes paid by the whole population. Nor do they figure in the price of energy generation, a fact that distorts the market and gives nuclear power an advantage in energy generation.

Does the Commission consider it right and just that today's EU citizens and future generations will have to pay through their taxes for the dismantling of nuclear power plants and management of their waste?

Will the Commission insist, in its newly designed energy market, that dismantling and waste management costs are included in the price for generating nuclear energy?