

**Question for written answer E-008406/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Eleonora Evi (EFDD), Marco Valli (EFDD), Dario Tamburrano (EFDD), Marco Affronte (EFDD)  
and Isabella Adinolfi (EFDD)**

Subject: Geological storage of CO<sub>2</sub> in Lombardy

In 2010 the Regional Government of Lombardy and the Ministry of Economic Development signed a memorandum of understanding<sup>1</sup> facilitating CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage (carbon capture and storage – CCS).

The Regional Government then commissioned a report<sup>2</sup> with a view to launching a pilot project. This has identified a potentially suitable system for CCS in a deep saline aquifer extending over 1 500 km<sup>2</sup>.

The report suggests several locations for injection wells in the municipality of Soncino. In 1802 an earthquake occurred in Soncino, measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale.

Underground gas storage in aquifers/salt cavities is covered by Directive 2012/18/EU (Seveso III). However the directive only applies to dangerous substances.

According to Directive 2011/92/EU, sites for geological storage of CO<sub>2</sub> must be subjected to an environmental impact assessment, as must installations capturing 1.5 megatonnes or more of CO<sub>2</sub>.

According to Directive 2009/31/EC, the Commission has to examine Member State projects authorising CCS.

Could the Commission clarify, in light of the foregoing, under what circumstances the Seveso III Directive could be deemed important in geological storage of CO<sub>2</sub>?

Which EU rules regulate assessment of seismic risk in the case of CO<sub>2</sub> storage?

Has the Commission issued any opinions in 2015-2016 on the authorisation of any storage projects in Lombardy?

---

<sup>1</sup> [http://unmig.mise.gov.it/unmig/norme/pdf/protocollo\\_intesa\\_lombardia\\_220210.pdf](http://unmig.mise.gov.it/unmig/norme/pdf/protocollo_intesa_lombardia_220210.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.eupolis.regione.lombardia.it/shared/ccurl/827/496/Ter13011\\_Rapporto\\_finale\\_10feb14.pdf](http://www.eupolis.regione.lombardia.it/shared/ccurl/827/496/Ter13011_Rapporto_finale_10feb14.pdf)