

**Question for written answer E-009076/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Risks to the environment posed by the Marismas project in the Doñana national park

A number of Spanish experts have published a report this month in which they warn of the serious risks to conservation posed by the Marismas project (which was considered by Parliament's Committee on Petitions in July) in the Doñana national park, owing to the seismic characteristics of the area and other factors such as the over-exploitation of the aquifer. The project would also have an impact on Iberian lynx and imperial eagle numbers. Both species are protected under EU-funded conservation projects such as 'Iberlynce'.

The Marismas project could cause seismic activity, as was the case with the Castor project, which was also the subject of petitions submitted to Parliament's Committee on Petitions. The Spanish authorities later abandoned that project. Even though the Doñana National Park is protected under EU legislation and has been designated as a World Heritage Site, human activity has resulted in 80% of the surface area of wetlands in the park being lost.

Bearing the above situation in mind:

1. In the light of recent correspondence with civil society representatives, does the Commission still take the view that there is no evidence of any failure to comply with EU legislation where this project is concerned, as stated in its answer to written question E-006731/2016?
2. Does the Commission think it is necessary to draw up its own report to determine whether the project is viable and in line with EU legislation, and to assess its impact on the environment?