Question for written answer P-008982/2015 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: EIB funding for the gas storage plant in Cornegliano Laudense

On 14 March 2013 the European Investment Bank (EIB) approved the granting of EUR 200 million to Ital Gas Storage for the building and development of a gas storage plant in the municipality of Cornegliano Laudense, province of Lodi.

The natural tank is due to be built underneath a heavily populated district (with some 3000 inhabitants) and the mining concession will involve five municipalities, estimated to have around 60 000 inhabitants.

Given that the area in question poses a specific risk of earthquake, and in view also of the failed Castor project experience in Spain, financed through the EIB's project bonds, do the Commission and EIB not agree that it is damaging and counter-productive to insist in supporting initiatives of this kind?

Given also that the type of energy involved in this project is not among the priorities set out by the EU for green and sustainable growth, does the Commission consider it acceptable for the EIB to agree to finance such works?

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