Question for written answer P-002711/2018 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Spread of titanium dioxide from the Trestina ColorGlass site in Città di Castello

ColorGlass is an industrial paints company in Città di Castello which produces titanium dioxide as a waste by-product of its activities.

That substance, which is also used in the food industry (colour E171) and in cosmetics, represents a serious risk to human health.

Although unambiguous epidemiological data to support that fact have yet to be produced, the research evidence available has been enough for the International Agency for Research on Cancer to classify titanium dioxide as possibly carcinogenic to humans, category 2B, if inhaled.

In the light of the above:

- 1. Does the Commission intend to check whether the company's activities which are a risk to human health will be relocated, as provided for in national and EU law, given that its site is 30 metres from a residential area and 190 metres from nurseries, schools and a police station?
- 2. As the independent analyses already produced of the smoke and burned waste were in a clear conflict of interests financed by the company itself, will the Commission order independent analyses to be carried out?
- 3. As titanium dioxide was not included in the list of carcinogenic substances in the third batch of amendments to Directive 2004/37/EC, what practical steps will the Commission take to speed up research on whether it is indeed a risk to human health?

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