



24.7.2019

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Subject: Petition No 1095/2018 by Mario Ginés Pérez Cervera (Spanish), on behalf of Los Alcázares PSOE, on the misuse of Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI) funding for the Mar Menor in Murcia

1. Summary of petition

The petitioner indicates that funding approved in 2014 for the regeneration of the Mar Menor has not been properly used, given that the infrastructure provided, including the Los Alcázares overflow tank inaugurated in 2016 at a cost of EUR 1 million, is failing to operate properly as a result of construction errors and faulty pumps. In other words, the European funding provided has been put to improper use, since the intended objective has not been achieved.

2. Admissibility

Declared admissible on 26 February 2019. Information requested from Commission under Rule 227(6).

3. Commission reply, received on 24 July 2019

The Commission's observations

The infrastructure mentioned in the petition was financed under the Cohesion Fund in the 2007-2013 period. Under this Fund, Member States are responsible for the programming and implementation of selected projects, through their management and control systems.

According to information received by the Commission from the Spanish authorities, this project complies with concerned national and EU regulation and as stated in the closure documents of this programme submitted by the Spanish authorities, the project is completed,

as all required activities were carried out, and there is no irregularity regarding this investment.

Moreover, as an investment under the 2007-2013 period, it cannot be considered to come under the Integrated Territorial Investment of European Structural and Investment Funds foreseen for the Mar Menor, known as ITI Mar Menor, which has been set up for the first time for the period 2014-2020.

Conclusion

The petitioner should address further complaints or observations to the Managing Authority, namely the Subdirección General de Gestión del FEDER, Dirección General de Fondos Europeos, Ministerio de Hacienda (Paseo de la Castellana 162, 28046 Madrid).