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- **Petition 0801/2013 by María Mercedes Gómez Sande (Spanish) on the authorisation of oil prospecting activities in Fuerteventura and Lanzarote (Canary Islands)**

The petitioner opposes the decision by the Spanish Government to authorise oil prospecting around the islands of Fuerteventura and Lanzarote (Canary Islands), by means of Royal Decree 547/2012 of 16 March 2012. Drawing attention to the fact that the authorisation allows for deepwater prospecting (3 500 metres) and that it does not specify the number of drilling wells allowed, the petitioner supports the opposition of the local administrations to such activities and cites their formal complaints lodged with the European Commission: EU Pilot 3279/12/ENV and CHAP(2012)00876. The petitioner highlights the infringement of the EIA Directive, the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive.

Information

- Petitions 0359/2012, 0559/2012, 0683/2012 and 1826/2012 concerned the same issue. A communication from the European Commission, dated 27 November 2012, concluded that since the project has not yet been authorised, it is premature at this stage to establish a breach of applicable EU environmental law in this case. The petitions are therefore pending.

Recommendations

- Declare admissible;
- ask the Commission for information; treat with petitions 0359/2012, 0559/2012, 0683/2012 and 1826/2012;
- send the abovementioned CM.