

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Anni Podimata, Dimitrios Papadimoulis and Rebecca Harms

on diversifying the European Union's energy mix

Lapse date: 24.7.2008

0038/2008

Written declaration on diversifying the European Union's energy mix

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas burning coal (lignite and hard coal) to produce electricity has a high environmental cost,
- B. whereas even with the best available technologies in non-CHP coal units, the CO₂ emissions will not be lower than 0.75 kg CO₂/kWh,
- C. having regard to the serious concerns and mobilisation of local communities in Germany and Greece in areas where new coal plants have been announced,
- D. having regard to the conviction of the general public that coal units will cause bigger problems in terms of environment and public health than those they are asked to solve,
- E. whereas the technology for the capture and permanent storage of CO₂ produced by power plants is in an early phase and must be developed further,
 1. Considers that sustainable development is incompatible with the use of polluting fuels such as coal;
 2. Calls all EU governments to radicalise their energy mix and move to ambitious and long-term energy planning, focusing on emissions reduction;
 3. Welcomes the creation of an alliance against coal in Greece, which underlines that a country's energy path should be planned after consultation with society;
 4. Calls on the Commission to continue funding appropriate research programmes in the fields of energy, network optimisation and emission reduction;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the Parliaments of the Member States.