

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3592/00  
by Gordon Adam (PSE)  
to the Commission

Subject:           Hydrocarbons research

In the light of current widespread public concern within the European Union regarding the availability and price of petroleum products:

- (a)     Has the Commission reassessed the relative priorities given to hydrocarbon research?
- (b)     How does the Commission intend to utilise the Fifth Framework Programme to enable increased production of hydrocarbons within the European Union by promoting research into improved techniques to maximise extraction of hydrocarbon reserves?
- (c)     Given the need to increase the efficiency of hydrocarbons utilisation in order to reduce emissions and dependence on oil imports into the European Union what new steps is the Commission taking to encourage research in this area?