

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1367/04

by José García-Margallo y Marfil (PPE-DE) and Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Spanish National Hydrological Plan

The Spanish Environment Minister, Cristina Narbona, has announced plans to amend the projects under Law 10/2001, of 5 July 2001, of the National Hydrological Plan that were presented to the European Commission.

Under these projects, about which those concerned have yet to be informed, the Ebro transfer is to be replaced by the installation of desalination plants in the Autonomous Communities of Valencia and Murcia. The final cost of water will depend, among other things, on two factors: the distance between the desalination plant and the place the water is used and the height of this place above sea level.

What, in the Commission's opinion, would be the cost of desalinated water in those areas furthest from the desalination plants? What would the cost be in mountainous regions?