WRITTEN QUESTION E-1452/04 by Bernd Lange (PSE) to the Commission

Subject: Infringement proceedings due to failure to transpose rules giving priority to the regeneration of waste oil

In 2000 and 2001 the Commission initiated infringement proceedings against 13 Member States on the grounds of the inadequate implementation of provisions requiring priority to be given to the regeneration of waste oil under Directive 75/439/EEC¹,.

What stage has been reached in the proceedings? Have these irregularities been rectified in the meantime? If not, how does the Commission, as guardian of the Treaties, intend to react to the 12-year delay in implementing of this directive in over 12 years? Will the Commission take responsibility for the fact that EU law is being disregarded to the detriment of the environment, public health and competition, particularly over so long a period?

It is rumoured that the Commission intends to take no further action on the failure to comply with the CJEC judgement. Is this correct? If so, what reasons can it give for this attitude?

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¹ OJ L 194, 25.7.1975, p. 23.