

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3836/08
by Alain Lipietz (Verts/ALE)
to the Commission

Subject: Export credit agencies, the EIB and fossil fuel projects

On 29 November 2007 Parliament passed resolution P6_TA(2007)0576 on trade and climate change which 'calls for the discontinuation of public support, via export credit agencies and public investment banks, for fossil fuel projects and for the redoubling of efforts to increase the transfer of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies'.

The resolution further 'asks the Commission and the Member States to propose legislative instruments in order that Member State export credit agencies and the European Investment Bank take account of the climate change implications of the funded projects when making or guaranteeing loans and impose a moratorium on funding until sufficient data are available, in accordance with advice from the OECD, the G8 and the Extractive Industries Review'.

Having regard also to the EU Renewable Energy and Climate Change Package, endorsed by the EU Heads of State and Government, which is aimed at 1) reducing fossil fuel consumption by 200 to 300 million tonnes per year, most of it imported – making energy supplies more certain for European citizens and 2) boosting high-tech industries, new economic opportunities and jobs, we wish to ask the following:

1. What measures has the Commission taken to date to develop a proposal for legislative instruments for gathering data on the climate change impact of export credit agencies and the EIB?
2. What measures has the Commission taken to date to impose a moratorium on the funding of fossil fuel projects through export credit agencies and the EIB?
3. What other measures does the Commission intend to take to comply with Parliament's calls as regards the EIB's and European export credit agencies' impact on climate change?