

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2125/09

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to the Commission

Subject: Projected closure of the Indesit factory in None (Turin province), with 600 redundancies

- The Indesit Company is Italy's largest domestic appliance manufacturer and has factories in Europe and all over the world, including the None factory in the province of Turin and a plant in the United Kingdom. It has been announced that the two last-mentioned factories are both to be closed down and their production transferred to Poland, specifically to Radomsko (Łódź): as a result, the employees will all be made redundant, and all current subcontracts will be terminated, which will in turn mean that other related production sites will likewise have to be closed, as well as entailing an intolerable rise in unemployment.
- The Italian and British factories each have 600 employees, giving a total combined workforce of 1 200.
- The Radomsko factory also makes dishwashers and at present employs some 300 people.
- Employment on that site could rise to as high as 1 500 under an agreement initialled on 30 May 2007 with the Polish Ministry for Economic Affairs, which has allocated EUR 3 million (equal to PLZ 11 million) to Indesit on condition, however, that it develop the site and expand production and the workforce.
- In May 2007 Indesit announced its intention of investing EUR 80 million in Radomsko; it promised to double the workforce by the end of 2009 and to reach the target figure of 1 500 within the next few years.

Did the Community contributions granted under the ESF and the ERDF, at the request of the Polish Government, have any bearing on the agreement concluded on 30 May 2007 to develop the Radomsko site?

Does the Commission think it right for Community funding and State aid to be made subject to a requirement to develop a single factory at the expense of other European production sites where Indesit, the recipient company, manufactures the same products?

If mass redundancies were to occur on this scale, would not the Commission be compelled to impress upon Indesit that it has to fulfil its corporate social responsibility and observe the Community rules laid down in directives 2001/23/EC¹ and 2002/14/EC²?

¹ OJ L 82, 22.3.2001, p. 16.

² OJ L 80, 23.3.2002, p. 29.