

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3110/10
by Milan Cabrnach (ECR)
to the Commission

Subject: Completion of the final section of the D8 motorway

The European Commission has informed the Czech Ministry of Transport that it is suspending its assessment of the project to complete a section of the D8 motorway connecting Prague with Germany as a result of complaints from environmentalists. The Commission has given itself a period of up to four months in which to review the project, which is financed by the Operational Programme 'Transport'. As a result, the opening of the motorway will most likely be postponed until 2012.

It is essential that construction of the D8 motorway in the vicinity of Ústí nad Labem is completed. This delay is causing huge problems owing to the heavy volume of lorry traffic, which, in addition to other factors, has a significant effect on the overall environmental quality experienced by residents (exhaust emissions, noise and dust). Substituting for the unconstructed section of the D8 motorway, the overloaded I/30 from Ústí nad Labem to Lovosice is clogged with heavy goods vehicles and is, from a traffic safety perspective, one of the most dangerous stretches of road in the Czech Republic. Will the Commission speed up the review process of this project? When will the Commission issue its opinion?