

**Question for written answer E-011895/2011  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Ilda Figueiredo (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Funding for rebuilding the Lousã branch railway line

While on a recent visit to the area served by the Lousã branch railway line, and during a meeting of the Movimento de Defesa do Ramal da Lousã (Movement for the defence of the Lousa branch) in Miranda do Corvo, I heard of the local population's legitimate indignation at the recent dismantling of this railway branch, on the pretext of transforming it into an urban metro line.

Now that it has been announced that the so-called Mondego metro will finally not go ahead, people in the area served by the Lousã branch are rightly calling for the tracks and the line to be replaced and for train services to swiftly be resumed in order to guarantee the local population's mobility rights, and in the interests of the region and its overall development.

Could the Commission therefore provide the following information:

1. What programmes can be used to mobilise financial resources with which to rebuild the Lousã branch line, in view of its major importance to the mobility of people living in the mountain areas served by it, in order to reduce the environmentally harmful effects of road transport and help increase energy efficiency?
2. Would it be possible to mobilize Community funds right away, allowing for the possibility of a lower national contribution, of around 5 % of the total value of the project, given the fact that Portugal is currently in receipt of financial assistance?