

**Question for written answer E-012250/2013  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Patricia van der Kammen (NI)**

Subject: Commission's action regarding the power rating of vacuum cleaners

According to reports in the media<sup>1</sup>, and as also indicated in the Official Journal of the European Union<sup>2</sup>, the Commission is adopting requirements concerning the ecodesign of vacuum cleaners: Commission Regulation (EU) No 666/2013 of 8 July 2013 implementing Directive 2009/125/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to ecodesign requirements for vacuum cleaners.

One of the new requirements with which vacuum cleaners will soon have to comply is a maximum power rating. After August 2017, the rated input power of any vacuum cleaner placed on the market must not exceed 900 Watts.

1. Is the Commission aware of its regulation on the power rating of vacuum cleaners?
2. What does the Commission expect to achieve by means of this bureaucratic idiocy?
3. Does the Commission agree with the PVV that it is too absurd for words that the Commission should insist on interfering in every tiny detail of the products that people buy and use? If not, why not? How would the Commission otherwise describe its wildly excessive nannying?
4. This is yet another demonstration that the Commission is incapable of anything other than wasting Community funds on the most bizarre bureaucratic pastimes. When will the Commission take the honourable way out and dissolve itself?

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.hpdetijd.nl/2013-10-25/draconische-bemoeizucht-eu-uw-stofzuiger-mag-hard-zuigen/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2013:192:0024:0034:NL:PDF>