

**Question for written answer E-012341/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Patricia van der Kammen (NI)

Subject: Commission's plans to regulate water quantities used for toilet flushing

According to media reports¹ as well as a technical report by the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies², the Commission plans to regulate the quantity of water used when flushing a toilet.

1. Is the Commission aware of this technical report?
2. What does the Commission hope to achieve with this bureaucratic idiocy?
3. How can this be reconciled with Barroso's State of the Union address when he said that 'The EU executive needs to be big on big things and smaller on smaller things'?
4. Does the Commission agree with the Dutch Party for Freedom that its obsession with regulating product supply and consumer choice to three decimal places is too silly for words? If not, why not? What qualification does the Commission then have for its excessive nit-picking?
5. This is the umpteenth example we have seen of 'occupational therapy for civil servants' or wholly superfluous regulation at the taxpayer's expense. When will the Commission be so kind as to resign?

¹ <http://m.euractiv.com/details.php?aid=531374>

² http://susproc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/toilets/docs/Technical_report_Ecolabel_May_2013a_revised_final.pdf