

**Question for written answer E-000868/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Adam Gierek (S&D), Andrzej Grzyb (PPE) and Bogusław Sonik (PPE)

Subject: Lime industry on the Carbon Leakage list 2015-2019

Lime is a very important and irreplaceable raw material for many branches of industry, construction, the environment and agriculture. In Europe approx. 28-30 m tons of lime are produced and used on an annual basis.

The lime industry is labouring under the economic burden of the European Emissions Trading System.

The main step in the lime production process is the thermal decomposition of calcium carbonate in order to remove carbon dioxide, which accounts for 70% of the CO₂ emissions in the production of lime.

The inclusion of lime as a product exposed to Carbon Leakage meant that allowances were allocated on a free basis, at least for process emissions.

The planned changes to the Carbon Leakage rules will mean that the lime sector will not receive free allocations of emissions allowances, as it has been combined with the mortars and gypsum sector, according to the NACE classification, and this sector is ETS-insensitive.

The exclusion of lime from the Carbon Leakage list will not affect CO₂ emissions reductions; all it will do is cause a drastic increase in the costs of production and prices as well as a deep recession in the sector.

In its new regulations on Carbon Leakage rules, shouldn't the Commission concede that free allowances should be awarded to sectors for CO₂ emissions arising from production processes (and not only of lime), rather than for combustion of fuel to produce energy?