Question for written answer E-010375/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Ryszard Antoni Legutko (ECR)

Subject: Regarding the diversification of energy supplies

In December last year, the Environmental Protection Committee of the European Parliament announced that it was in favour of rejecting the proposal of a new EU directive regarding fuel quality, which would facilitate the import of Canadian crude oil from bituminous sands. This was an unexpected decision in the face of a declaration of the need to diversify energy supplies. The existing suppliers have benefitted from this decision. In the case of Poland, over 90% of such suppliers are from Russia. It should be added that in the current situation, this import is highly uncertain across the Eastern border of our country.

At the present time, there is no Canadian crude oil from bituminous sands on the European market. However, when the Keystone XL oil pipeline is built from Canada to the USA, it may become available and attractive for European customers. The competitiveness of supplies and energy security in Europe are at stake here. The technologies for extracting crude oil from bituminous sands are constantly being improved. As opposed to Russia, which extracts oil using old 'dirty' techniques, Canada is concerned to maintain the highest ecological standards.

In connection with the foregoing, I ask the Commission to answer the following questions:

- 1. Is the Commission taking any steps to diversify energy supplies on the European market?
- 2. In what way does the Commission intend to influence Russian suppliers to provide environmental indicators on the extraction and transport of crude oil?

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