

**Question for written answer E-000257/2019  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Konstantinos Papadakis (NI)**

Subject: Provocative decision to grant exemptions to 'energy-intensive enterprises' from renewable energy taxes

The Commission has approved a proposal put forward by the SYRIZA government in order to boost the competitiveness of European industries to grant exemptions for 'energy-intensive enterprises' and reductions in the surcharges that are being imposed in order to finance programmes aimed at supporting renewable energy. This is a provocative move, since, thousands of households of persons who are unemployed, unpaid or receive low wages and pensioners on exiguous pensions who are unable to meet the astronomical cost of energy and heating are now being asked additionally to pay the renewables tax from the little they have so that business groupings of the so-called 'green economy' can be subsidised.

At the same time, the PPC is deploying lawyers and debt collection companies to pile on the pressure and increase its threats to cut off electricity for some 600 000 consumers of low-voltage electricity, i.e. for the most part ordinary working class households.

In view of the above, can the Commission say:

- How does it view the fact that the EU and the SYRIZA government, like previous governments (ND-PASOK), are granting 'energy-intensive enterprises' tax cuts by reducing the surcharges they are required to pay, while at the same time constantly imposing onerous new taxes on ordinary working class households in the name of the 'green economy' on the basis of the deregulated energy market?