

Question for written answer E-000606/2019
to the Commission
Rule 130
Carolina Punset (ALDE)

Subject: imports of electricity generated from coal from third countries

Against a background of coal-mine closures and calls for the closure of thermal power plants in Asturias, Castilla y León, Aragón and other regions, Spain has started to import electricity generated from coal-fired power plants located in Morocco¹.

The closure of mines and power plants forms part of the European emission reduction strategy, which aims to strengthen a low-carbon energy system in the European Union in order to meet climate targets. However, the implementation of this strategy has led, in the case of Spain, to the import of polluting electricity from a neighbouring country without an emission compensation programme.

- 1) Does the Commission take the view that such exports should be subject to some form of border adjustment in order to place environmental costs on an equal footing?
- 2) Does the Commission consider that the import of electricity from third countries from coal combustion is a positive measure to tackle climate change?
- 3) Would the Commission consider adopting measures, through the neighbourhood policy, to encourage our trading partners to follow the COP21 criteria for climate protection?

¹ https://www.abc.es/espana/castilla-leon/abci-espana-compra-ahora-energia-carbon-marruecos-tras-cerrar-minas-y-termicas-201902010835_noticia.html