Question for written answer E-001241/2019 to the Commission Rule 130 Konstantinos Papadakis (NI)

Subject: Wind turbines in the Agrafa mountains

Local residents and grass-roots organisations in Thessaly and Evritania have complained about the authorisation given for the construction of two wind farms, comprising a total of 40 wind turbines, in the Agrafa mountains, a scheme which will violate environmental and other legislation. Plans for a total of 650 wind turbines will wreak enormous damage on the natural environment, while the massive change in land use and the erosion of the region's historical and environmental character will have serious consequences for farmers, breeders and beekeepers.

The EU, the SYRIZA government and the ND-led local and regional authorities are seeking to hand over the Agrafa mountains to RES business interests, as part of plans to liberalise the energy market. They are preparing to jeopardise the lives of local people and sacrifice the environment for the sake of profit by building wind farms wherever they like and erecting wind turbines close to villages.

Given that Evritania is classified as a 'Regional Park of European Interest', will the Commission say:

how does it view the demands made by local bodies:

- that the licences for the 2 wind farms in the historical area of Nialas and Voidolivado and the other RES licences granted in the area should be immediately revoked?
- that the 'green' RES rates should be abolished and electricity tariffs immediately slashed by 30% for each family on an income of up to EUR 40,000?