

Question for written answer E-001403/2019
to the Commission
Rule 130
Nikolaos Chountis (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Need for the law and the precautionary principle to be applied to Grammatiko landfill in Greece

During the examination in the European Parliament of Petition No. 0573/2011 on Grammatiko landfill site, the Region of Attica initially produced a study by IGME (the Institute of Geology and Mineral Exploration) confirming that the landfill is located on a stream with a catchment area far greater than 1 sq. kilometre which Law 4258/2014 has established as the minimum catchment area for a stream to qualify as such.

It should be recalled that:

despite the contrary opinion of the superior authority, the Environmental Inspectorate of the Ministry of Environment, the service responsible, issued a final decision (27.3.2014) confirming that the landfill is located on streams, and stressing that the site chosen for the landfill is inappropriate for that reason alone.

The surface water of the landfill is discharged into a NATURA 2000 marine area, which means that the law requires a new EIA¹ for the protection of the habitat.

In view of the above, and because the Region of Attica is still hiding behind the Council of State's decision that there is no stream, which however judged the legality of the procedure followed rather than the substance, will the Commission say:

What steps will it take, on the basis of the law and the precautionary principle, to oppose any trial operation of the landfill and any request for funding the other GEDOs², until it is finally established whether or not there is a stream on the landfill site and the necessary new EIA required by European legislation has been produced³?

¹ Environmental Impact Study

² Integrated Waste Management Facility

³ Article 6 (3) of Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora