

**Question for written answer E-002744/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Rosa D'Amato (NI), Laura Ferrara (NI), Chiara Gemma (NI) and Isabella Adinolfi (NI)

Subject: Infringement of rules concerning effluent

The Torre Guaceto marine protection area has been extended by 7 978 hectares, 95 % seawards and 5 % landwards.

However, it has been adversely affected by human activities along the Canale Reale river, which is closely linked with it, even though these activities have been taking place a number of kilometres away.

The heavy rainfall and tornado damage sustained by the area in July have had a major impact on the marine protection area due to the very high concentration of sludge in the Canale Reale, requiring immediate action by the port authorities, the Puglia water authorities and environmental protection agency and the Brindisi municipal council.

Effluent from the Mesagne sewage plant is discharged into the Canale Reale. In accordance with Regional Government 388/2016 funding has been channelled into the projected commissioning and operation of a purification plant providing waste water for irrigation under Action 6.4.3 of the ERDF 2014-2020 Regional Operational Programme for Puglia.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say what progress has been made on the projected purification plant at Mesagne, funded under Action 6.4.3 of the ERDF 2014-2020 ROP for Puglia?
2. Can it say what stage has been reached by the infringement proceedings regarding waste-water treatment¹ in the Puglia Region?

¹ Directive 91/271/CEE