Question for written answer E-006303/2020 to the Commission Rule 138

Elena Lizzi (ID)

Subject: Correct economic and environmental assessments on use of lithium in the Green Deal

On 3 September 2020 the Commission launched a plan to create a Member State network to source the raw materials needed for the Green Deal.

Lithium is essential to the production of modern electric batteries. The plan estimates that the EU will need at least 18 times its current lithium requirements by 2030, and 60 times its current requirements by 2050. However, according to research published by Roskill, the rise in demand for lithium could also see CO¹ emissions rise sixfold by 2030, as it passes through the different stages of mining, production, transport and manufacture.

Lithium is only mined in a few countries at present. Serbia, which holds 10 % of the world's reserves in lands around the area of Ložnica, is one of them. The Anglo-Australian giant Rio Tinto has already invested EUR 200 million in this region.

In light of these facts:

What policies will the Commission implement to procure lithium?

Has the environmental impact of its mining been calculated?

_

¹ undefined