

**Question for written answer E-001483/2021**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Miapetra Kumpula-Natri (S&D)**

**Subject:** Supporting the development of new thermal energy storage technologies

The Commission recently published its reply to the European Parliament's resolution on a comprehensive European approach to energy storage. In this reply, it states that it will promote the development of large-scale thermal energy storage for district heating and cooling among other forms of energy storage.

Energy storage is expected to play a key role in the green transition, as identified in Parliament's resolution. In its 'Clean Planet for All' long-term vision, the Commission too identified an increasing need for energy storage and called for EU research to focus on transformational carbon-neutral solutions such as energy storage. Thermal storage can offer a cost-effective tool for decarbonisation, especially in areas with existing district heating and cooling networks.

1. How will the Commission support research and investment in new thermal storage technologies, especially large-scale thermal storage?
2. How will it ensure that its approach to promoting energy storage is technology-neutral, i.e. that different forms of energy storage receive equal treatment?