

**Question for written answer E-002564/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Natural fertiliser transformed into heat and electricity

Manure, such as that from poultry, is a headache for many farmers. However, bills for electricity and heating fuel are also a problem. Biogas plants are not a novelty worldwide, but they can be a solution. By the 1980s, many farms had been equipped with biogas-producing plants. Later, it was used for heating and sometimes for electricity generation.

In Germany, such plants have been preserved and maintained, and those who have taken over farms equipped with biogas plants have managed to provide heat and gas for surrounding areas. Such a plant requires tanks in which the raw material ferments. A set temperature is maintained in these tanks so that the bacteria that break down the raw material can multiply. The fermentation gases are collected and pumped into a tank from where they are directed to the place of use. The resulting biogas contains 60-70% methane and 25-28% carbon dioxide and can be used as such and burned to produce light and heat.

What tools does the Commission have at its disposal to verify whether this method could be a smart solution for disposing of farm waste?