

**Question for written answer E-003113/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Nicola Danti (Renew)

Subject: Classification of geothermal energy in the Delegated Act on Sustainable Finance Taxonomy 2021

The Delegated Act on Sustainable Finance Taxonomy (2021) indicates that a cross-cutting life cycle emission threshold of 100 gCO₂e/kWh for energy activities has been maintained, except where the relevant technologies demonstrably fall well short of this level (p.4).

However, it gives no scientific justification for assigning this life cycle threshold to all geothermal energy applications.

Moreover, geothermal energy is a renewable energy source, as defined in the Renewable Energy Directive (Directive (EU) 2018/2001), and therefore any emission threshold should be defined in terms of greenhouse gas savings compared to non-renewable sources and not in terms of CO₂ emissions, which apply to fossil fuels.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission explain why the life cycle threshold has been applied to geothermal heating and cooling activities and why this threshold has been identified in terms of CO₂ emissions and not in terms of greenhouse gas savings compared to non-renewable sources?
2. Can it say when it will correct these errors?