

**Question for written answer E-003258/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Mauri Pekkarinen (Renew)

Subject: Ensuring carbon-neutral electricity production

The Nordic countries and Finland have an electricity system that is almost carbon neutral. It is fast becoming an ever more low-emission system. For years now, all new power generation for the Nordic markets has been renewable and carbon neutral, driven by the emissions trading system and customer demand. Nothing is envisaged that would alter this situation.

Finland has a very advanced and well-functioning energy infrastructure and electricity grid. The electricity and gas grids now work together to develop the system. The Nordic electricity market is a global pioneer.

The Commission is now drafting the delegated act on Renewable Fuels of Non-Biological Origin (RFNBO), pursuant to Article 27(3) of the Renewable Energy Directive (RED II).

It is relevant as to how cost-effectively reductions in emissions can be achieved, especially in industry, transport, and to some extent in heating too. In other words, the sectors which face the biggest challenges in bringing about reductions in emissions.

In light of the above:

1. How does the Commission intend to ensure that existing carbon-neutral electricity generation can be exploited in the production of synthetic fuels and that hydrogen can be integrated with the current energy system and electricity markets?
2. How does the Commission intend to ensure that the resources and technologies to achieve reductions in emissions are available to market operators and investors based on a level playing field?
3. Does the Commission intend to extend the additionality requirement in the delegated act and Article 27 of RED II to hydrogen produced for other purposes, in which case it would not be possible to make use of Nordic carbon-neutral electricity, nor would it be possible for hydrogen to be integrated with the existing market and system in any optimal way?