Question for written answer E-003831/2021 to the Commission Rule 138 Idoia Villanueva Ruiz (The Left)

Subject: Biomass and solid recovered fuel (SRF) incineration plant in Mieres (Asturias)

The thermal power plant of La Pereda in the city of Mieres (Asturias) will be converted into a plant dedicated to the burning of biomass and SRF (solid recovered fuel). This has revived political and local residents' protests concerning the impact of the co-incineration of waste on health and the environment.

SRF is nothing other than sorted, dried but mixed waste, making their combustion as dangerous as they were previously when they were all separated. It is in fact said to constitute a back door to incineration. We are talking about more air pollution in an already heavily polluted region, burning waste that generates highly polluting gases, containing dioxins and furans.

Does the Commission consider that the authorisation procedure for energy recovery from waste by means of solid recovered fuel (SRF) constitutes an infringement of Directive 2008/98/EC on the treatment of waste, by violating the hierarchy laid down in that legislation, which provides that, before resorting to energy recovery, appropriate measures must be put in place firstly to prevent the generation of waste products, secondly for their reuse, and thirdly for their recycling?