

**Question for written answer E-004372/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Laura Huhtasaari (ID)

Subject: Definition of saw dust in EU legislation

On 8 September 2021, the Commission answered my question (P-003693/2021) concerning the changes to the definition of saw dust in EU legislation.

In its reply, the Commission referred to point (o) of Part A of ANNEX IX to Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources, which unambiguously states: 'Biomass fraction of wastes and residues from forestry and forest-based industries, namely [...] saw dust'.

On 29 June, the Commission put forward a proposal for an implementing regulation that contradicts this Annex and current practice. It would mean that all other forest industry waste and residues, except for tall oil, would be deprived of residue status.

Residue status significantly affects an operator's sustainability system, GHG emissions calculation and certification. Depriving waste of residue status would pose major regulatory risks. Why has the Commission put forward in its implementing regulation an interpretation that contradicts the Directive and could therefore prevent major investment in green growth and a reduction in emissions from transport?