

**Question for written answer E-004748/2021  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Ignazio Corrao** (Verts/ALE)

**Subject:** Extension of the Grotte San Giorgio-Bonvicino landfill at Lentini, environmental damage and halting of the authorisation process

The Grotte San Giorgio-Bonvicino landfill site at Lentini has a capacity of 4 291 511 m<sup>3</sup>. It is currently under investigation by the Guardia di Finanza, and this has resulted in the site managers being arrested on charges of illegally disposing of waste and causing an environmental catastrophe.

At the same time, an application is being processed to double the size of the landfill to an overall capacity of 9 000 000 m<sup>3</sup> on farmland covered by the landscape plan.

The Parliamentary Committee on the Waste Cycle has found all the Integrated Environmental Authorisation (AIA) decrees issued for previous extensions not to comply with the laws in force.

The landfill is located close to the most important wetlands and ecological corridors in Sicily, including Biviere di Lentini (SPA) and the San Leonardo River, which according to the regional environmental protection agency (ARPA) breaches the environmental quality standards laid down in Community legislation<sup>1</sup>. Thousands of local residents are being affected by the harmful effluents leaching into underground galleries which lead to the sea.

In the light of the above, can the Commission state clearly:

1. Whether it is aware of this situation;
2. What action it will take regarding the extension process to ensure that the surrounding ecosystem and public health are protected;
3. Whether it considers Community rules to have been violated?

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<sup>1</sup> Legislative Decree No 104 of 16 June 2017 on the Implementation of Directive 2014/52/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014.