

**Question for written answer E-004807/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: EU support for wind power, greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel dependency

Many countries are moving towards so-called renewable energies, such as offshore wind energy, with financial backing from the EU.

It is well known that offshore wind farms play a part in seabed destruction (in the case of fixed foundation turbines), coastline degradation and the loss of large areas used for shipping and fishing. Having the third longest coastline in Europe, France could potentially designate an area of 35 000 km<sup>2</sup> to offshore wind farms.

Many studies suggest that wind power emits just as much greenhouse gas as dams or nuclear power stations. The manufacture, transport, installation, maintenance and dismantling of wind turbines have a significant impact on their carbon footprint.

Another serious disadvantage is the intermittency of wind energy supply. Although storage solutions are being explored, they cause pollution, involve materials that cannot be fully recycled and have a very limited lifespan. Wherever wind power gains prominence, fossil fuel dependency increases to compensate for the unpredictability of wind power.

1. Can the Commission provide a breakdown of the funding made available to each offshore wind farm as part of the support provided by the European Investment Bank?
2. Given wind power's poor track record, will the Commission review its strategy on offshore renewable energy?