

Question for written answer E-002143/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
Seán Kelly (PPE)

Subject: Excess electricity generated from agricultural lands – eligibility for sale to national grids

In Ireland, the Targeted Agriculture Modernisation Schemes (TAMS) is regulated by Article 17 (Investments in Physical Assets) of EU Regulation 1305/2013. The payments made under TAMS since 2014 up to the present date relate specifically Article 17(1)(a) of this Regulation. Solar photovoltaic (PV) systems which are grant-aided under TAMS include solar PV panels, solar PV rechargeable batteries and solar panels for water heating under the Pig and Poultry Capital Investment Scheme.

Article 81 of Regulation 1305/2013 sets out the regulatory requirements and stipulates that unless Regulation 1305/2013 specifies otherwise, State aid requirements apply. Currently, investment may be linked to farm-level production of energy from renewable sources, provided that such production does not exceed the average annual consumption of fuels or energy of the farm in question.

1. Will the Commission commit to allowing farmers to fully maximise their renewable energy generation potential and to sell the excess to the grid?
2. Will the Commission commit to amending the appropriate regulations to facilitate this?