

**Question for written answer E-000407/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**José Gusmão** (The Left), **Marisa Matias** (The Left)

Subject: Baixo Cávado e Vale do Lima landfill site

The Baixo Cávado e Vale do Lima landfill site in Paradela lies on the border between Barcelos and Póvoa de Varzim municipalities. It can hold up to 800 000 m<sup>3</sup> of waste and is operated by Resulima.

Since it opened in 2022, local authorities and residents have increasingly complained about persistent unpleasant odours in the area.

An inspection by the North Region Coordination and Development Commission confirmed the presence of nauseating smells and identified eight breaches at the site. The report also mentioned a water borehole for which no licence had been granted: 'the company built a water borehole by the site entrance for which no licence had been requested.'

This worrying state of affairs constitutes a breach of the Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000), which was incorporated into Portuguese law by Act 58/2005 of 29 December.

What steps will the Commission take to urge Portugal to ensure the Water Framework Directive is followed at the Baixo Cávado e Vale do Lima landfill site?

Submitted: 9.2.2023