

**Question for written answer E-001164/2023/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Willow project in Alaska

On 13 March 2023, the US Interior Department approved ConocoPhillips' USD 8 billion Willow Master Development Plan project, which involves drilling for oil on Alaska's North Slope in the National Petroleum Reserve, a territory owned by the US federal government. ConocoPhillips is a US multinational corporation that specialises in the exploration and production of hydrocarbons. This project will make it possible to produce an estimated 160 000 barrels of oil per day and is expected to release 9.2 million metric tonnes of planet-warming carbon pollution a year.

The project is seen as a global environmental catastrophe and contravenes several clauses of the Paris Agreement, to which the EU is a party, such as the one on limiting global warming to well below 2 °C. It is also a disaster for all the marine species living in Alaska's five large marine ecosystems.

1. What is the Commission's position on the Willow project, which affects the planet as a whole and, in a more indirect sense, undermines the EU's environmental protection efforts?
2. Notwithstanding the above, in its endeavour to REPowerEU and especially to reduce dependence on Russian fossil fuels, will the Commission consider buying fossil fuels generated by the Willow project?

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