

**Question for written answer E-001204/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Gabriele Bischoff (S&D)

Subject: State aid control procedures with respect to steel companies

The new Guidelines on State aid for climate, environmental protection and energy 2022 (CEEAG) and State aid rules for Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEI), applicable from January 2022, aimed to provide a flexible framework to help Member States provide the necessary support in a targeted and cost-effective manner to achieve the objectives of the Green Deal.

According to Section 3.3 of the Code of Best Practices for the conduct of State aid control procedures, pre-notification contacts may be initiated with Member States in order to speed up complex pre-notification procedures, but should generally not last more than six months. Currently, there is an increasing number of complaints from EU steel companies that have been waiting more than a year for a Commission decision in order to be able to invest in a climate-friendly technology.

1. Which steel companies have applied for aid under the new CEEAG guidelines?
2. So far, which applications have received decisions and which not?
3. Why was the Commission not able to reach the decisions within the envisaged six month period?

Supporter¹

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¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the author: Joachim Schuster(S&D)