

Question for written answer E-002891/2023
to the Commission
Rule 138
Annika Bruna (ID)

Subject: Responding to the European Court of Auditors' questions about the sustainability of offshore renewable energy

The European Court of Auditors has published a special report: 'Offshore renewable energy in the EU – Ambitious plans for growth but sustainability remains a challenge.'

In the report, the Court expresses its concerns about the sustainability of renewable energy, in particular:

- the difficult coexistence with other sea users, particularly fishers who are excluded from areas used for offshore wind farms;
- damage to marine biodiversity caused by changes in population structure or migration patterns.

What is more, offshore wind turbine magnets require neodymium and dysprosium from China, which has a near monopoly on supplies.

In short, the EU's goal of increasing the installed capacity on its territory from 16 GW today to 340 GW by 2050 will require an estimated EUR 800 billion in investment.

The Court says that on Member States will be responsible for providing a response to the social, industrial and environmental challenges caused by offshore renewable energy.

Will the Commission recognise the need to redirect investments into nuclear energy or genuinely renewable energy sources such as biomass and geothermal energy?

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