

**Question for written answer E-002899/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Eutrophication in the El Val reservoir in Aragon

The El Val dam in Aragon controls the Queiles and Val rivers, which originate in Castile, meet in Aragon and flow into the Ebro river in Navarre. It was built in 1997 despite local opposition, flooding land in Los Fayos to create a small reservoir with limited irrigation benefit.

The presence of polluting industries in Castile has a serious effect on the waters of the Queiles-Val system, as the Spanish authorities acknowledged in their reply to Senator Mulet (file 684/055305 from 15 November 2022).

Faced with serious water pollution problems, the Spanish Government has decided to declare the reservoir a 'vulnerable zone', authorise inadequate 'sewer improvements', 'hold meetings' with the polluting local entities and prohibit recreational activities.

1. Is the Commission aware of this situation?
2. In the light of European Parliament report A9-0238/2023, what other measures does the Commission think the Spanish Government could take to solve the problem?
3. Given the underuse of the reservoir and the aforementioned report, does the Commission think that demolishing the El Val dam and rewilding the area would be a potential solution, and would European funding be available to support this project?

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