

**Question for written answer E-002912/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Building geothermal plants overseas

In addition to small modular reactors (SMRs), which were the subject of question E-002693/2023, the Commission should also look at the benefits that geothermal energy could bring to overseas territories.

Just like SMRs, geothermal power plants could provide these territories, which are currently mostly dependent on fossil fuels, with abundant, decarbonised and cheaper energy, which would help reduce inflation.

The French Geological and Mining Research Bureau has noted that there are many geothermal reservoirs in the French Caribbean. The same can be said of Réunion and likely all volcanic islands. However, the only power plant in use is that of Bouillante in Guadeloupe, which has been running since 1986.

1. Is the Commission financing research into geophysical imaging techniques for detecting geothermal reservoirs?
2. Would it contribute to the financing of these geothermal power plants in overseas territories?
3. Has France given notification of its intention to build such plants in its overseas territories?

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