

**Question for written answer E-002991/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Mathilde Androuët (ID)**

**Subject:** How does the Commission justify its desire to accelerate the issuing of permits for wind turbines?

A Chinese wind turbine costs around 50% less than its European counterpart<sup>1</sup>, and inflation, rising interest rates and material costs could threaten the survival of the five European turbine manufacturers. 'The average price of an onshore wind turbine increased from EUR 2.4 million in January 2021 to EUR 3.2 million' according to RWE Renewables France. According to BloombergNEF 'the commissioning of wind projects worldwide decreased by 15% in 2022'<sup>2</sup>. Despite criticisms of the efficiency and problematic environmental track record of wind turbines, the President of the Commission announced upcoming measures to promote wind energy in her State of the Union address. She stressed the need to issue permits faster<sup>3</sup>.

Given the above, and the fact that Ms von der Leyen has just recognised 'the central role' of nuclear power 'in the energy transition' in Czechia, while also saying the Commission is '(ready) to consider state aid'<sup>4</sup> in this sector, how does the Commission justify this 'acceleration', including in EU countries that are producing low-carbon electricity on a very large scale through nuclear power?

Submitted: 11.10.2023

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<sup>1</sup> Why investors are giving wind turbine manufacturers the cold shoulder – Market Screener – 31.5.2022.

<sup>2</sup> Suspended projects, calls for tender without candidates: wind power in the midst of a crisis – BFMTV – 26.9.2023.

<sup>3</sup> State of the Union Address by President von der Leyen – 13.9.2023.

<sup>4</sup> European Commission is 'willing to consider' subsidies for nuclear technology, says von der Leyen – Euronews – 26.9.2023.