

**Question for written answer E-000489/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Grace O'Sullivan (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Environmental compliance discrepancies in Ballymore Eustace – seeking clarification

I seek clarification on the responses (E-002048/19)¹ to questions raised by MEP Luke Flanagan on 18 April 2019. Contrary to information provided by the Irish authorities, my on-site visit in September 2022 revealed inaccuracies.

1. Question 1 queried the exclusion of Golden Falls Lake as a sensitive area under Council Directive 91/271/EEC, despite its direct connection to the River Liffey. The Commission's response, citing the Irish authorities, did not include the lake. I request clarification on this exclusion.
2. Question 2 addressed environmental protection from waste water discharge effects. The Commission reported the agglomeration of Blessington as discharging into a non-sensitive area, conflicting with downstream sensitivity. Urgently, I seek guidance on rectifying this misdesignation in line with Council Directive 91/271/EEC.
3. Question 3, regarding monitoring Golden Falls Lake's discharge effects, received a response claiming no awareness. Given the evident discharge into the lake from an area with a population exceeding 2 000 people, I inquire whether the requirements under Directive 2000/60/EC will be invoked. Additionally, I seek the Commission's response to misleading information and emphasise that no discharge into Golden Falls Lake should occur without treatment suitable for drinking.

Submitted: 14.2.2024

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-8-2019-002048-ASW_EN.html.