

**Question for written answer E-000652/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Rosa D'Amato (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Risk of subsidence linked to extraction of LNG from the artificial Lake Bomba

The company Energy is planning to extract gas from the bed of the artificial Lake Bomba, in the province of Chieti.

To reduce the environmental impact, the company intends to build a local liquefaction facility to load liquefied natural gas (LNG) onto tankers.

The project concerns the Colle Santo concession¹ and includes a small-scale LNG plant for putting the Monte Pallano 1 and 2 wells into service.

According to Forum H2O, the plans submitted so far have allegedly received a negative opinion from the regional and national Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) committee and from Italy's Council of State, due to the huge hydrogeological and seismic risks associated with the potential extraction of methane (irreversible subsidence)².

On 9 January 2024, the company Cmi Energia submitted to the EIA committee, via the company Ln Energy, the proposal 'Small Scale LNG Plant Colle Santo Gas Field' for the onshore production of liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons, potentially financed by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, contrary to the objectives of the green transition³.

Can the Commission answer the following:

1. In view of the risk of unacceptable and irreversible damage linked to subsidence, does it believe it is necessary, as indicated by the region itself, to adopt in respect of this project the precautionary principle enshrined in Article 191 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union?
2. Does it consider it necessary to check which EU funds have been earmarked for this project?

Submitted: 28.2.2024

¹ <https://va.mite.gov.it/en-GB/Oggetti/Documentazione/1619/2739>

² <https://www.chietitoday.it/attualita/estrazione-gas-bomba-progetto-ministero.html>

³ <https://va.mite.gov.it/en-GB/Oggetti/Info/10561>