

**Question for written answer E-000832/2024  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Rosa D'Amato** (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Photovoltaic system on Mar Piccolo, Taranto

The company M-Floating Mar Piccolo S.r.l. has put forward plans for a floating (offshore) solar park with a capacity of 100 MW, along with a 25 MW green hydrogen plant, a mussel seed capture installation and tourism-related structures – all to be built in an area of national interest in Taranto<sup>1</sup>.

Spanning 90 ha of the sea, obscuring the surface of the water and potentially disturbing the species living there, the project will have a tremendous impact on the natural systems of Mar Piccolo, which is not only a regional park but also classified as a site of Community importance (SIC) and a special area of conservation (SAC) with code IT9130004, protected by the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).

What is more, the project is to be financed using resources from the integrated national energy and climate plan under the national recovery and resilience plan (NRRP)<sup>2</sup>; however, although it concerns renewable energy and green hydrogen, it is not in line with the 'do no significant harm' principle when it comes to the sustainable use and protection of marine and water resources or the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystem health.

In the light of the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Does it consider approval of the project to be in breach of Article 12 of Directive 92/43/EEC?
2. Does it deem it necessary to deny this project NRRP funds?

Submitted: 19.3.2024

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<sup>1</sup> <https://va.mite.gov.it/en-GB/Oggetti/Info/10553>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://va.mite.gov.it/en-GB/Oggetti/Documentazione/10553/15634>.