

ORAL QUESTION H-0813/02
for Question Time at the part-session in December 2002
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure
by Cristina García-Orcoyen Tormo
to the Commission

Subject: Wreck of the Prestige off Galicia - oil waste in the Bay of Algeciras

Many of the vessels passing through the Straits of Gibraltar refuel (an operation known as bunkering) in the harbour from a tank-vessel which serves as a 'floating fuel station'.

This is not normal practice in other Community harbours, given the dangers represented by the inevitable spillages. In the Bay of Algeciras, in the water around Gibraltar, it would appear that this method of refuelling accounts for over 4 million tonnes per annum.

Is this practice actually permissible under EU environmental legislation, and if not, what is the Commission going to do about it?

Tabled: 29.11.2002
es