

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0689/03
by Laura González Álvarez (GUE/NGL)
to the Commission

Subject: Report on the National Hydrological Plan (Spain)

During the latest debate on the NHP held in the EP's Committee on Petitions, the Commission's representative informed us about two important issues – the forthcoming meeting to be held by the Commission with Spanish government officials to discuss possible 'inconsistencies' in the NHP as regards Community law, and the detailed study they were carrying out on the report commissioned from a group of scientists at the University of Berkeley (California).

Can the Commission say whether it was involved in the decision to request this report and in choosing the American experts who drew it up? Does it know that a client and contact of the experts is Amalio Garrido, representing the local government of Murcia in Brussels?

If so, does it know whether, during their trip to Spain (last June) designed to find out people's views on the spot, the experts had contacts with any Spanish scientists who oppose the NHP? Did the experts have any contact with the representatives of the 'Fundación Nueva Cultura del Agua', a platform for the defence of the river Ebro, or with any other representative of the communities affected who attended the meeting which the delegation from Parliament's Committee on the Environment held recently in Deltebre?