

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0019/04
by Juan Ferrández Lezaun (Verts/ALE)
to the Commission

Subject: Júcar-Vinalopó project

On 16 December 2003, Commissioners Barnier and Wallström informed Parliament of the approval of the Júcar-Vinalopó hydrographic project, subject to it being totally independent of the diversion of the Ebro and compliant with the framework water directive.

On 18 December, at a press conference, Mr Pascual Fernández, the Spanish secretary of state responsible for water, said in reply to a question that the only option ruled out was that of 'using the Júcar-Vinalopó channels to transport water to the Ebro', and that, in any case, 'there are many other rivers in the Júcar basin and the document refers only to the Júcar, not the basin'.

What is the Commission's position on these statements by the Spanish government? Can it confirm that diversions of water from the Ebro basin to the Júcar basin could be financed using Community funds?