

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0733/04  
by Giuseppe Di Lello Finuoli (GUE/NGL)  
to the Commission

Subject: European cofinancing of the Gazzi-Annunziata tramline in Messina under the Multifund Operational Programme 1994-1999

Judging from the statements made in the Sicilian press by politicians and those involved in the project, it would seem that Community funding for the construction of the Gazzi-Annunziata tramway in Messina was not forfeited since the facility was completed before 31 March 2002.

While I would like to accept as complete a construction project that required various interventions after the above date in order to bring the service into operation, and on which work continues on some urban sections still to be restored to service, could the Commission honour my legitimate right to information on public works by indicating:

- whether Community cofinancing was actually granted;
- how it views the significant change in respect of the route of the original project;
- whether it can confirm acceptance of the ruling by the Catania Regional Administrative Court, which on 6 July 1996 upheld the appeal by Messina Municipal Council against the need to submit an environmental impact assessment and ordered the responsible authorities to release the European funding that should be granted by the Regional Government?