

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2286/05
by Ursula Stenzel (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: of diesel particulate filters in motor vehicles

Since Council Directive 1999/30/EC¹ of 22 April 1999 relating to limit values for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and lead in ambient air was transposed, many regions have often gone far beyond the maximum number of occasions on which specified tolerances may be exceeded (35 a year). Much of this contamination stems from the fact that there is no European-level obligation to fit diesel particulate filters in motor vehicles. On 13 January 2005, the High-Level Group on CARS 21 (Competitive Automotive Regulatory Systems) was set up in order to draw up recommendations for framework legislation for the motor vehicle industry.

1. In connection with the high-level group, is a proposal being drawn up to make it mandatory to fit diesel particulate filters in cars or goods vehicles?
2. Has the Commission already made provision in its thematic strategy on air pollution (CAFE) for legislative proposals requiring the introduction of diesel particulate filters?
3. Is the Commission planning other initiatives to require Member States or the motor vehicle industry to fit diesel particulate filters? If so, what are they?

¹ OJ L 163, 29.6.1999, p. 41.