

**Question for written answer P-004477/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Claude Turmes (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Energy security: measures to reduce Europe's dependence on Russia

As a follow-up to the heads of state summit in March 2014, the Commission has been asked to draft a set of emergency measures providing for the protection of Europe and, in particular, countries of south-east Europe, such as Bulgaria, against the closing down of Russian gas pipelines to the EU.

Could the Commission elaborate on the measures that are envisaged within the next two and five years in terms of:

- the development of renewable sources of heat energy, such as biomass (including wood pellets), to replace gas in certain strategically and centrally located heating systems;
- the development of energy efficiency measures across all sectors of the economy;
- the fact that these measures can be financed with money from the structural funds, making EUR 23 billion available over the next five years;
- speeding up certain critical 'missing links' in infrastructure development?

Could the Commission also suggest how shale gas could contribute to Europe's energy security over the course of the next two to five years, and specify the countries from which it would be extracted?