Question for written answer P-006213/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) and 'decarbonised gas'

In current legislative proposals, the notion of ‘decarbonised gas’ is presented as a solution that can play an important role.

What is the Commission’s definition of ‘decarbonised gas’? Is it synonymous with blue hydrogen (based on Steam Methane Reforming (SMR) and Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)) or is it a broader definition?

Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) technology has stagnated for many years and its future large-scale applicability is highly uncertain. Stringent rules are needed to ensure that fossil fuel-based gas consumption does not continue while there are no real solutions in place to tackle its climate impact.

In order to make sure that ‘decarbonised gas’ is really decarbonised, is it technically proven that all CO2 emissions associated with the use of fossil decarbonised gas can be captured and that evidence of the capture of CO2 related to ‘decarbonised gas’ can be provided?

CCS is supposed to deal with CO2, but greenhouse gas emissions linked to ‘decarbonised gas’ are not just CO2. There can be methane leakage throughout the lifecycle of ‘decarbonised gas’.

How will the issue of methane leaks be tackled to obtain truly ‘decarbonised gas’? Is there any measure to capture the CO2 equivalent of the expected methane emissions?