Priority question for written answer P-003915/2020 to the Commission

Rule 138

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Subject: TEN-E revision, TYNDP and 5th PCI list

In 2019, the Commission adopted the 4th list of projects of common interest (PCI). It is now revising the TEN-E regulation so as to include binding criteria consistent with our climate objectives and the Green Deal and to introduce a democratic governance structure for the planning and selection of projects. In this recovery context, every euro must serve our future: the post-2020 CEF energy budget has been cut to EUR 5.18 billion and we cannot risk wasting a single euro on fossil fuels.

1. How does the Commission intend to take into account, in the TEN-E revision and in the transitional provisions for the 5th PCI, the fact that general gas demand will decline according to the Commission’s own and other scenarios, which shows that the existing gas grid is sufficient even in case of security of supply issues such as disruptions?

2. Will it develop a new TYNDP and long-term energy scenario, through a democratic and transparent process consistent with our climate goals, aligning our energy infrastructures with the sufficiency principle in order to reduce our energy demand?

3. In the context of COVID-19, how will the Commission ensure that the 5th list will promote projects that fulfil sustainability criteria and can actively contribute to the EU’s short-term recovery?