

**Priority question for written answer P-006451/2020
to the Council**

Rule 138

Radosław Sikorski (PPE)

Subject: Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning waste water treatment

Polish legislation does not regulate sufficiently clearly the question of assessing compliance with the requirements of Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning waste water treatment when urban waste water from agglomerations is treated in an industrial waste water treatment plant which treats waste water from installations requiring an integrated permit other than biologically degradable industrial waste water. This is the case, for example, with the treatment of urban waste water from agglomerations treated in waste water treatment plants, e.g. in the pulp and paper industry.

Polish legislation applies a stricter definition of the final discharge point than in the Directive. In accordance with Article 86(3), point 3 of the Water Act, that point is considered to be the urban waste water treatment plant in the agglomeration or the treatment plant in an adjacent agglomeration.

In Polish legislation, can the definition of the final discharge point be extended to include an industrial waste water treatment plant outside an agglomeration if the amount of urban waste water from the agglomeration does not exceed 10% of the total waste water treated in that treatment plant?

If so, could a mixture of such waste water therefore meet the parameters for an integrated permit issued for an industrial plant and constitute 'industrial waste water' within the meaning of Article 2 point 3 of Council Directive 91/271/EEC ("industrial waste water" means any waste water which is discharged from premises used for carrying on any trade or industry, other than domestic waste water and run-off rain water)?