

**Priority question for written answer P-000740/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Alexandr Vondra** (ECR)

Subject: Sulfuryl fluoride and the Green Deal

According to the World Climate Report, sulfuranyl fluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) is 4 000 times more harmful to the climate than CO<sub>2</sub>. The amount of SF<sub>6</sub> in the atmosphere is alarming and its increase has become exponential in the past years as ozone-depleting methyl bromide has been phased out.

1. In April 2021, the expiry date for the registration of SF<sub>6</sub> was postponed to the end of 2023 due to an incomplete examination of the application (document L147/21). When is this assessment going to be finished? Will it be publicly available, and will it include a study of the environmental impact of SF<sub>6</sub>, mainly its global warming potential (GWP)?
2. According to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) assessment (ECHA/BPC/073/2015), the GWP of SF<sub>6</sub> is estimated to be 4800 over 100 years, which is more than 10 times higher than previously estimated. Is there publicly available data on SF<sub>6</sub> concentrations in the troposphere as required by the Commission's 2006 review of SF<sub>6</sub>? And does Commission consider the use of SF<sub>6</sub> to be in line with the principles of the European Green Deal?
3. In 2020, the German Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) submitted initiatives to the Commission to investigate alternatives to SF<sub>6</sub> for wood fumigation. Has the Commission made any progress in the investigation of these alternatives? And if so, what are the results?