

**Priority question for written answer P-001480/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: The status of nuclear energy in the taxonomy for sustainable finance

On 2 February 2022, the Commission presented the complementary delegated act on the taxonomy for sustainable finance. The Commission's decision to include technical screening criteria for nuclear energy is welcome, especially considering the conclusions of the Joint Research Centre's science-based technical assessment. However, the technical screening criteria contain several ambiguous passages, which should be clarified.

1. Should the operation of existing nuclear power stations also be covered by the activity given that the low-carbon electricity produced substantially contributes to the mitigation of climate change?
2. The technical screening criteria require power stations to use accident-tolerant fuels (ATFs) after 2025 and state that the technology should be certified and approved by the national safety regulator. In the event that ATFs have not been approved by a regulator by 2025, should nuclear power stations that do not use ATFs not remain taxonomy-aligned?
3. According to the technical screening criteria, service time extensions for existing nuclear power stations have to be approved by a national regulatory authority by 2040. In a situation where an existing nuclear power plant has an operating licence granted before 2040 and valid beyond that date, will it remain taxonomy-aligned after 2040? Will the Commission publish its interpretations before the co-legislators' decision/votes on the delegated act?