

**Question for written answer E-001655/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Per Clausen (The Left)

Subject: Denmark's failure to comply with the Water Framework Directive

Denmark has undertaken to realise the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) objective of achieving good ecological status in all rivers, lakes, fjords and coastal areas, and in groundwater, by 2027¹. However, NGOs are warning that Danish aquatic environments are characterised by oxygen depletion, fish die-back and nitrogen discharges and that good ecological status is unlikely to be achieved for Denmark's water bodies by 2027².

In June 2024, the Danish Government nevertheless presented an Agreement on a Green Denmark in which it only voices an ambition to comply with the WFD objective in two thirds of Danish waters, thus deferring implementation of the WFD in a third of Denmark's coastal waters until 2030³.

1. How does the Commission think that the WFD objectives will be affected if Member States such as Denmark can repeatedly postpone achieving them?
2. How does the Commission view Denmark's chances of once again obtaining authorisation to defer realisation of the WFD objectives?

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¹ <https://mim.dk/vores-opgaver/vandmiljoe/vandomraadeplanerne>

² <https://www.dn.dk/nyheder/gronne-ngo-er-klager-til-eu-danmark-svigter-havmiljoet/>

³ <https://www.ft.dk/samling/20231/almindel/MOF/bilag/560/2886050/index.htm>