

**Question for written answer E-002263/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Yannis Maniatis (S&D)

Subject: Funding for the Achyra dam project and possibility of using pumped hydro storage to store energy

The Achyra dam in the Municipality of Aktio-Vonitsa in the Region of Aitolioakarnania is a long-awaited project that will allow the storage of winter streamflow for irrigation purposes, for the benefit of the local primary sector. After a years-long delay, the decision approving the project's environmental terms and conditions gave the project the green light in the summer of 2023. However, progress has not been made towards the project's completion.

There has also been a proposal to look into the possibility of using the dam to store electrical energy using pumped hydro storage. This technology could boost the country's energy safety and help achieve the EU's clean energy transition targets.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Is the cost of the Achyra dam project eligible for EU funding? If so, which programmes or funds are available?
2. Has the Greek Government submitted an application for the project to be considered for EU funding and does this application also mention the possibility of using a pumped hydro storage system to store energy?
3. Does the Commission plan to encourage the use of energy storage technologies in water projects such as this one, in the context of the EU energy transition?

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