

Question for written answer E-002388/2024

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Involvement of local communities in decisions on energy projects

There is deep public concern in Greece about the energy projects being implemented in the Greek territory, as it is becoming evident that there is a lack of consultation with local authorities, and overall planning is inadequate.

The absence of detailed research and the failure to develop an integrated, long-term framework reinforce the suspicion that progress on the 'energy transition' in Greece is self-interested, casual and opportunistic in nature, giving the erroneous impression that Greece's energy role in relation to Europe is being upgraded, but without bringing any effective or strategic benefits for local communities.

Unfortunately, the EU also bears some responsibility in that it has not specified a strategy for energy that clearly ensures there is a balance between European and national interests, not to mention the fact that there is a high minimum benefit threshold for local communities.

Increased transparency and greater local community involvement are crucial when it comes to formulating a fair and coherent energy policy in Greece.

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

1. What is being done to ensure that energy investments in the Member States are in line with the needs of local communities and that, in terms of sustainability and long-term performance, they are developed for the benefit of those communities and of the nation as a whole?
2. What measures does it plan to adopt to ensure that local authorities are effectively involved in the planning and implementation of energy projects in Greece?
3. How will actions to promote transparency and accountability be supported in environmental and social studies on energy infrastructure projects?

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