

**Question for written answer E-000101/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Maria Zacharia (NI)

Subject: Wind power projects and fire prevention

The new EU Forestry Strategy for 2030 (Commission Communication of 16 July 2021) underlines the need to restore forest biodiversity, as forest ecosystems are a natural ally in adapting to climate change by performing carbon storage and carbon sequestration functions, while the objective of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 is to ensure that there is no deterioration in conservation trends or the status of protected habitats and species.

For Natura 2000 sites in particular, plans and projects are authorised in accordance with Article 6(4) of Directive 92/43/EEC, provided that a strategic environmental assessment has been carried out in accordance with the conditions laid down in Directive 2001/42/EC or that they have been subject to an environmental impact assessment in accordance with Directive 2011/92/EU.

Forestry offices often issue negative opinions in environmental impact assessments regarding the extension of logging roads to access distant peaks for wind power projects. Citing fire prevention, with the guidance of the country's forestry offices, the Greek Ministry of Environment recently issued a circular that seeks to overcome this 'irritating' problem.

Is the Commission aware of the policy of devaluing Greek forest areas of European interest and, if so, what measures does it intend to take?

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