

**Question for written answer E-000891/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Landfills in Contrada Tufarelle

Contrada Tufarelle, in Apulia, has been used as a metaphorical dustbin since 1992: the site comprises three landfills and has always been a public health concern.

The results of the latest characterisation plan confirmed that the area may have a soil and groundwater pollution problem, as the contamination threshold values for both organic and inorganic pollutants had been exceeded.

By means of Decision No 673/2022, the regional executive approved an update to the regional plan for special waste which refers to potentially contaminated sites as one of the 'exclusionary' criteria for decisions regarding the location of new landfills and for the renewal and extension of existing landfills. As a result, the ongoing procedure in the province of Barletta-Andria-Trani concerning the extension of one of the three landfills must be overturned.

Human health and the environment must be well protected against even potential hazards, and an assessment must be carried out of the types and methods of applying the preventive measures that can be taken, in accordance with the precautionary principle, which lays down that if pollution is a concern, decisions must be suspended (Article 191 TFEU).

In the light of the above, in the Commission's view, what initiatives can be taken to ensure that the environment and public health are protected in the Contrada Tufarelle area?

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