

Question for written answer E-002116/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
José Cepeda (S&D)

Subject: Revision of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive

The Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive has raised concerns in the pharmaceutical and cosmetics sector, as well as in several Member States. The sector argues that the directive has a disproportionate and discriminatory impact on the two industries. The application of extended producer responsibility raises doubts as to its alignment with the ‘polluter pays’ principle, due to questions of technical feasibility and a lack of proportionality.

Organisations representing the sector argue that the Commission’s impact assessment lacks technical precision and key data, leading to unjustified costs and a loss of industrial competitiveness in the sectors.

In light of this situation:

1. Will the Commission update its impact assessment based on the 2022 JRC list and consider an approach based on substances rather than sectors?
2. Is the Commission considering revising the directive within the next omnibus package to ensure proportionality and non-discrimination in the application of this directive?

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