

**Question for written answer E-002924/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Andreas Glück (Renew)

Subject: Ban on the use of fluorinated greenhouse gases for high-voltage electrical switchgear

Regulation (EU) 2024/573 on fluorinated greenhouse gases (f-gases) sets out an ambitious path for phasing out the use of f-gases in electrical switchgear. From 2032, f-gases with a global warming potential of one or more will be prohibited in new high-voltage electrical switchgear.

For its current uses, sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) can be replaced with fluoronitrile (C₄-FN) or vacuum technology. Fluoronitrile is the only alternative that has been tested at scale for high-voltage applications of more than 145kV. With a much lower global warming potential and low leakage rates, fluoronitrile represents an environmentally sound alternative to SF₆ or vacuum technology. However, under Regulation (EU) 2024/573, it is set to be banned from 2032.

According to Article 13, paragraph 13 of Regulation (EU) 2024/573, fluorinated gases with higher global warming potential can be used, if it has been established that the life cycle CO₂ emissions of the switchgear are lower than equivalent equipment.

1. Is the Commission planning to analyse the life cycle CO₂ emissions of electrical switchgear using fluoronitrile as an insulation gas?
2. Is the Commission aware that due to the strict phase-out timeline and the lack of alternatives, especially in the high-voltage range, many transmission system operators are currently ordering electrical switchgear using SF₆ as an insulation gas?

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