Question for written answer E-003149/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Manuela Ripa (PPE)

Subject: Possible breaches of EU law in the construction and operation of the Tesla Gigafactory in Grünheide

There may be potential breaches of EU law associated with the construction and expansion of the Tesla Gigafactory Berlin-Brandenburg in Grünheide (Brandenburg, Germany) including the construction and extension of associated rail, station and road infrastructure. The authorisation of large-scale interventions in habitats of species that are strictly protected under Annex IV of Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive), without sufficient compensatory measures, must be viewed critically. Moreover, clearing and construction work began even though the approval process had not been completed. Species such as the smooth snake, sand lizard and several bat species are particularly affected. In addition, a wooded buffer zone to the neighbouring FFH area Löcknitztal was removed to allow for the expansion of the factory site to the east, thereby compromising the area's conservation objectives.

There are also significant concerns regarding compliance with Directive 2000/60/EC (Water Framework Directive). Construction activities within a designated drinking water protection area pose a qualitative and quantitative threat to the groundwater.

Furthermore, it is questionable whether adequate emergency management measures in accordance with Directive 2012/18/EU (Seveso III Directive) for handling hazardous substances were implemented at a sufficiently early stage.

1. Does the Commission have any information on the issues described and is it already taking action in this regard?

2. If this has not yet been done, does the Commission intend to investigate the above-mentioned circumstances with regard to possible breaches of the above-mentioned Directives?

Submitted: 30.7.2025