Question for written answer E-000877/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Christine Singer (Renew)

Subject: Methodological basis for the high-ILUC classification of soya under the Renewable Energy Directive

The classification of soya as a raw material with a high risk of indirect land-use change (ILUC) will effectively rule out soyabean oil as a feedstock for biofuel production. Around 20 % of soyabean oil is made as a by-product in the production of soyabean meal, which is the most important source of vegetable protein for European livestock farming. If the market for soyabean oil collapses, it will put the economic viability of domestic oilseed processing at risk, as well as being at odds with the EU's protein strategy. Raw materials from cultivated biomass certified under the Renewable Energy Directive are already subject to strict sustainability criteria and a cap.

1. What is the Commission's methodological basis for the high-ILUC classification of soya, given that it is grown primarily to meet the demand for protein, and that the use of soyabean oil for energy purposes is simply maintaining the economic viability of domestic processing?

2. Has the Commission assessed the risks that the measure might cause the creation of value to move outside the EU and further increase dependency on soyabean meal imports, rather than boosting European security of supply?

3. Why is the Commission sticking to the blanket classification – which is triggering new trade conflicts, including with the US – rather than relying on precise proof of origin?

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