

**Question for written answer E-003280/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Sakis Arnaoutoglou (S&D)

Subject: European funding to upgrade the electricity grid and prevent wildfires in Greece

Measure 16900 of the Greek Recovery and Resilience Plan provided for an upgrade of the electricity distribution network in forest areas, involving the replacement of bare wires, the installation of insulation, and undergrounding or power line relocation.

In its 2024-2028 Network Development Plan, the Hellenic Electricity Distribution Network Operator (DEDDIE) states that the measure involves works across 2 086 kilometres of power lines and a budget of EUR 149.8 million. However, while in previous EU documents measures 16900 and 16901 appear as two separate entries with a budget of EUR 40 million and EUR 60 million respectively, SWD(2026)252 shows measure 16900 as ‘HEDNO network upgrades’ with a budget of EUR 100 million and a broader scope.

Meanwhile, the Greek press, citing the arson investigation unit as its source, has published information on megafire cases that are being investigated because of their potential link to power grid problems, without holding anyone accountable prematurely.

In view of this, can the Commission answer the following:

1. What is the exact current physical and financial scope of measure 16900 and has measure 16901 been fully or partially incorporated into it?
2. How many kilometres of network have been completed and put into operation, for each intervention category and geographical area, and what documentation was used to certify this milestone?
3. What criteria were used to select the specific intervention areas and, during their selection, assess the risk of the electricity grid causing or spreading forest fires, so that interventions could prioritise higher risk areas?

Submitted: 14.8.2026