

Question for written answer E-003683/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Erik Kaliňák (NI)

Subject: Cost-efficiency of remote reading of existing meters and heat cost allocators pursuant to Article 16(2) of Directive (EU) 2023/1791

Directive (EU) 2023/1791, Article 16(2), stipulates that meters and heat cost allocators already installed but which are not remotely readable must be rendered remotely readable or replaced by 1 January 2027, unless a Member State demonstrates that this is not cost-efficient. In blocks of flats, this may mean replacing devices that are still in working order before the end of their operational life, with the costs potentially being passed on to flat owners and occupants.

In light of the foregoing:

1. What criteria, in the Commission's view, should Member States apply when assessing the cost-efficiency of introducing remote meter reading for existing meters and heat cost allocators?
2. In the Commission's view, does Article 16(2) of the Directive allow the burden of proving that remote meter reading is not cost-efficient to be shifted onto individual flat owners and occupants?
3. Does the Commission consider that, when assessing cost-efficiency, account should be taken of the total costs of installation, operation, maintenance and replacement of equipment in relation to the energy savings that can realistically be achieved?

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