

Question for written answer E-004347/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Piotr Müller (ECR)

Subject: Increasing electricity consumption without adequate energy infrastructure

The Commission has set out a plan to increase the share of electricity in final energy consumption from around 23 % to 46 % by 2040, pointing to the more widespread use of electricity in transport, buildings and industry as a means of reducing energy costs. At the same time, it acknowledges that electricity is currently up to three times more expensive than gas, that grid connections can take years, and that a significant proportion of Europe's distribution networks require urgent modernisation.

Without adequate generation capacity, energy storage facilities, transmission and distribution networks, and charging infrastructure being in place, forcing a rapid replacement of fuels with electricity may lead to price rises, grid overloads and a further loss of competitiveness for the European economy.

In light of the above:

1. On the basis of what specific assumptions does the Commission claim that doubling the share of electricity in final energy consumption will reduce bills, given that it has not presented a binding timetable for the expansion of the grid, energy storage facilities and charging infrastructure?
2. Will the Commission commit to ensuring that new obligations leading to the replacement of fuels with electricity in transport, buildings and industry will not be introduced until measurable infrastructure readiness indicators have been achieved in individual Member States?
3. How does the Commission intend to prevent the costs of the essential expansion of the electricity infrastructure from being passed on to households, SMEs and energy-intensive industries, particularly in countries starting their transition from a less favourable position?

Submitted: 22.10.2026