

**Priority question for written answer P-003901/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Sander Smit (PPE)

Subject: Floating solar parks: green dream or environmental disaster in the making?

Last week, the first floating solar park at sea went up in flames off the coast of Egmond aan Zee. Debris from solar cells, wiring and polystyrene polluted kilometres of coastline, sea and seabed. In a recent communication,¹ the Commission acknowledges that floating solar parks face challenges such as saltwater corrosion and sea turbulence, and there is uncertainty about their environmental impact.

1. In light of the precautionary principle, the recent incident referred to above and the known safety and environmental risks, is the Commission considering an immediate moratorium on new floating solar parks? If not, why not?
2. Owing to the increasing risks associated with large-scale deployment along European coasts, does the Commission plan to include in the Oceans Act a ban on the roll-out of floating solar parks?
3. Does the Commission recognise that, in accordance with settled case-law of the Court of Justice, projects involving serious risks must be halted immediately? Or does the Commission consider it justified to deviate from this case-law in order to achieve the renewable energy targets that the EU has set itself?

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¹ European Commission, ‘Communication to the Commission – Approval of the content of a draft Commission Notice on innovative technologies and forms of renewable energy deployment’, Brussels, 2 July 2025, C(2025) 4011 final, annex.