

(English version)

Question for written answer E-002452/25
to the Commission
Piotr Müller (ECR)
(18 June 2025)

Subject: The Methane Regulation, energy security and competitiveness Does the Commission intend to respond to the Member States' concerns?

According to media reports, some Member States are calling for a reduction in the methane monitoring and reporting obligations provided for under the already adopted Methane Regulation.

These proposals are to be considered as part of the announced Omnibus Simplification Package.

EU climate policy, when pursued without taking into account economic and technological realities, increasingly leads to a decline in competitiveness, destabilisation of the energy market and higher costs for producers. Unreasonable administrative burdens are not conducive to innovation or investment. In this context, there are also worrying signs of possible barriers being imposed on imports of American LNG, which should be unequivocally supported as a strategic alternative to Russian raw materials.

I would therefore ask the Commission to answer the following questions:

1. How does the Commission intend to respond to the calls from Member States to reduce obligations under the Methane Regulation?
2. Does the Commission plan to adapt the legislation to market realities and technological possibilities?

Submitted: 18.6.2025

Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(14 August 2025)

The main focus of the Commission is on implementing the Methane Regulation ⁽¹⁾. This will preserve legal certainty and achieve the objective of tackling methane emissions, which is the second-largest contributor to climate change after carbon dioxide.

A pragmatic approach to implementing the regulation is the most effective way to address the questions raised by Member States.

The Commission services are facilitating implementation by, for instance, holding workshops with industry to encourage the development of viable solutions that meet monitoring reporting and verification requirements; developing an EU reporting framework; facilitating discussions and common approaches within the network of national competent authorities, which is the expert group newly established by the Commission to coordinate implementation efforts.

Security of supply and competitiveness are at the core of the regulation's architecture, ensuring the EU market remains attractive for liquefied natural gas suppliers.

The Commission will continue considering pragmatically market and technological realities in the development of non-legislative acts set in the regulation.

To do so, the Commission is conducting informal consultations on the implementing act on leak detection and repair measures and on recommendations on model clauses for supply contracts scheduled for adoption in 2025.

The Commission services are also working with the European Committee for Standardisation to formulate technical standards that will provide clarity to the industry.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1787 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on the reduction of methane emissions in the energy sector and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/942 (OJ L, 15.7.2024, p.1).