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Answer given by Mr Jørgensen
on behalf of the European Commission
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The deployment of renewable energy can create opportunities for farmers and rural areas. In a context of competition for land-use, it is important to combine it with the need to value appropriately ecosystem services and to ensure business models that retain value within rural communities. While the promotion of sustainable energy is part of the specific objectives of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), it is up to the Member State to make detailed implementation decisions in their CAP strategic plans, depending on national specificities and needs.

To achieve its 2030 energy objectives, and to deliver secure and affordable energy to European citizens and companies, the EU must accelerate the deployment of renewables, with wind and solar playing a major role. While the deployment of renewables is subject to decisions of competent authorities in the Member States, it is not incompatible with protecting biodiversity and safeguarding farmers' livelihoods, which can be simultaneously promoted. Farmers are among those most affected by climate change, and the roll out of renewables is fundamental to mitigate its effects.

The revised Renewable Energy Directive¹ mandates Member States to designate renewables acceleration areas particularly suitable for renewable energy projects, which will benefit from short permitting procedures, with an emphasis on prioritising areas that are not usable for agriculture such as industrial zones. Furthermore, to minimise land use and encourage multiple use of space - including combining renewables deployment and agriculture - the Commission has issued recommendations and guidance for Member States on encouraging innovative technologies and forms of renewable energy deployment², such as agrivoltaics.

¹ Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 82, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2018/2001/oj>).

² C(2025) 4024 final and C(2025) 4011 final, respectively.