

EN

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Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.1.2026)

The quality of drinking water in the EU is regulated by the Drinking Water Directive (DWD)¹, whereby Member States must ensure that drinking water is wholesome and clean. The DWD establishes a parametric value of 10 microgram per liter for tetrachloroethylene²; it requires Member States to maintain and improve access to safe water in particular for vulnerable and marginalised groups³. The Water Framework Directive⁴ provides special protection for water bodies used for the abstraction of drinking water.

The Commission has not received a formal report regarding breaches to the DWD in the province of Avellino.

Italian authorities⁵ are responsible to ensure compliance with EU law, to monitor water quality, and take appropriate remedial actions if needed. The Commission expects the competent national authorities to ensure these obligations are fulfilled and that affected populations are protected and informed. The Commission is monitoring the implementation of the DWD in Italy and will not hesitate to act should evidence of systemic non-compliance emerge.

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)⁶ is investing around EUR 558 million in Campania's integrated water service, addressing water losses, wastewater treatment and the security and resilience of water networks. Campania has in addition proposed amending its ERDF programme to allocate significant resources for water resilience investments, in the framework of the Mid-term review of cohesion policy, whose approval is expected by end of 2025.

For the selection of the projects financed by the five investments in water management under component M2C4 of the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan⁷ which include actions in Campania, the Italian authorities are responsible.

¹ Directive (EU) 2020/2184 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 on the quality of water intended for human consumption (recast), OJ L 435, 23.12.2020, p. 1–62.

² Annex I, Part B.

³ Article 16.

⁴ Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy, OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1–73, as amended by Commission Directive 2014/101/EU of 30 October 2014, OJ L 311, 31.10.2014, p. 32–35.

⁵ In Italy, the competent authority for the implementation of the Drinking Water Directive is the Regulatory Authority for Energy, Networks and Environment.

⁶ https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/european-regional-development-fund-erdf_en.

⁷ The Commission will assess the completion of those projects under the related milestones and target as outlined in the Annex to the Council Implementing Decision on the approval of the IT recovery and resilience plan - https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/5def5446-08e6-4cc0-8c02-c7d5a8bc9b5c_en?filename=COM_2025_675_1_EN_annexe_proposition_cp_part1_v3%20%282%29.pdf.