

(English version)

Question for written answer E-004197/25
to the Council
Mathilde Androuët (PFE)
(24 October 2025)

Subject: Increased use of fossil fuels: wind energy underperformance particularly to blame

According to the Ember think tank, the EU upped its production of electricity from fossil fuels by 7% in the first half of 2025 — to 368.46 TWh from 343.28 TWh in 2024 — resulting in a 5% increase in power sector emissions, despite electricity demand only having grown by 0.7%. This increase stems from the increased use of gas to compensate for the fall in wind production (-8.5%, -21 TWh) and hydropower production (-17%, -33 TWh) ⁽¹⁾.

This development is at odds with the European Green Deal's climate and decarbonisation objectives ⁽²⁾. It lays bare the limits of an energy policy based on intermittent sources and the corresponding risks — which became apparent during Spain's blackout in April 2025 ⁽³⁾ — to the detriment of dispatchable capacities, in particular stored nuclear and hydraulic energy.

1. How does the Commission explain this contradiction with its commitments to reduce emissions ⁽⁴⁾ and increase use of renewable energy ⁽⁵⁾?
2. Does it intend to shift the balance of EU energy policy in favour of stable and dispatchable sources to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and strengthen our energy security?

Submitted: 24.10.2025

Reply
(15 June 2026)

Since the questions posed by the Honourable Member are actually addressed to the Commission, the Honourable Member is invited to send those questions to the Commission.

¹ *Contexte*, Tuesday 7 October 2025.

² COM(2019)0640 (European Green Deal).

³ 'Red Eléctrica hopes to be able to use renewable energy to control electrical voltage from the first quarter of 2026', Sandra Acosta, 8 October 2025, <https://elperiodicodelaenergia.com/red-electrica-espera-poder-activar-que-las-renovables-controlen-la-tension-a-partir-del-primer-trimestre-de-2026>.

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 — target of reducing emissions by at least 55% by 2030.

⁵ Directive (EU) 2023/2413 concerning the share of renewable energy (Renewable Energy Directive, RED III).