

(English version)

Question for written answer E-004281/25
to the Commission
Yannis Maniatis (S&D)
(31 October 2025)

Subject: Mesochora hydroelectric project

Hydropower is central to achieving the EU's strategic autonomy and climate goals. Greece's Mesochora hydroelectric power plant was completed back in 2001, with a capacity of 161.6 MW and an estimated annual energy output of 360 GWh. Although the relevant environmental impact study has been completed as of 2014, the plant was never commissioned, as a small number of works were pending and the reservoir needed to be filled. Although the 2024 National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) states that 'the completion of construction and commissioning [...] is expected to take place immediately, as all outstanding issues for the resumption of works to fill the reservoir have been resolved', nothing has yet been done.

Can the Commission say:

1. Has the completion of the project been discussed with Greece during the drafting of the NECP, and also in the context of the European Semester, following the June 2025 report, which found that reduced hydropower contributed to 'ramped up and expensive natural gas-fired generation'?
2. Has Greece requested EU funding (e.g. InvestEU, Innovation Fund, EIB) or technical assistance (e.g. EIB, JASPERS) for the Mesochora project and any necessary accompanying environmental and energy projects?

Submitted: 31.10.2025

Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(13 January 2026)

Indeed, hydropower is an important energy source being the EU's second largest source of renewable electricity, following wind power.

Hydropower produces about 29.9% of all renewable electricity in the EU, having an important role for attaining the 2030 targets and the 2050 decarbonisation objectives.

Besides renewable generation, the technology also provides system services that help integrating a growing share of renewables, such as flexibility and storage.

Following the submission of the final Greek National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), the Commission published its assessment ⁽¹⁾, taking note of the information provided by Greece on hydropower.

Please note that the European Semester Country Report is a document published by the Commission, which provides a detailed analysis of each Member State's economic and social developments and challenges.

Regarding possible EU funding, according to the information available to the Commission, this project has not been supported under any programme, e.g. Recovery and Resilience Facility, ⁽²⁾, InvestEU ⁽³⁾, European Fund for Strategic Investments ⁽⁴⁾, or cohesion policy funds.

Furthermore, no technical assistance has been provided to the project, under the InvestEU Advisory Hub or European Investment Advisory Hub ⁽⁵⁾.

⁽¹⁾ SWD(2025) 140 final.

⁽²⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/business-economy-euro/economic-recovery/recovery-and-resilience-facility_en.

⁽³⁾ https://investeu.europa.eu/index_en.

⁽⁴⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/economy-works-people/european-fund-strategic-investments_en.

⁽⁵⁾ https://investeu.europa.eu/investeu-programme/investeu-advisory-hub_en.