

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004580/25
to the Commission
Jordan Bardella (Pfe)
(17 November 2025)**

Subject: German plan for preferential electricity pricing for industry and its compliance with state aid rules

Germany has announced it will bring in, on 1 January 2026, a reduced electricity tariff for industry, financed by the federal budget to the tune of around EUR 5 billion over three years, according to estimates reported in the European business press.

Germany, whose leaders are never slow to remind other Member States of the need for fiscal discipline and fair treatment, thus appears to be affording itself considerable leeway to support its domestic industry.

While other countries are forced to comply with internal market rules and the sometimes untenable requirements of the energy transition, this purely national approach raises serious questions about the fairness and consistency of European policies.

1. What view will the Commission take of this initiative in respect of EU state aid rules?
2. How does it assess its compatibility with the Union's climate objectives?
3. If this approach were to be endorsed, can it confirm that France could, by analogy, introduce a national electricity tariff based on its actual production costs, without this measure being counted as state aid under EU law?

Submitted: 17.11.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Ribera on behalf of the European Commission
(2 March 2026)**

The Commission can adopt state aid communications or guidelines in order to set out how it intends to assess the compatibility with the internal market of certain state aid measures.

The Commission understands that the Honourable Member refers to a communication that the Commission has adopted on 25 June 2025 ⁽¹⁾, namely the possibility for Member States to provide temporary relief on high electricity prices under Section 4.5 of the Clean Industrial state aid Framework.

In return for receiving price support, companies will be required to invest in decarbonisation, in line with the climate objectives. The rationale, the evidential basis and feedback the Commission has relied on are explained in an accompanying document ⁽²⁾. This possibility under that communication is open to all Member States.

As a general principle, the Commission does not comment on discussions with Member States about state aid matters or speculate about their outcome.

⁽¹⁾ Communication from the Commission — Framework for State Aid measures to support the Clean Industrial Deal (Clean Industrial Deal State Aid Framework), OJ C, C/2025/3602, 4.7.2025, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/C/2025/3602/oj/eng>.

⁽²⁾ SWD(2025) 850 final, https://competition-policy.ec.europa.eu/document/download/d960b2f1-d699-45c5-ad80-6e82700da393_en?filename=CISAF_staff-working-doc_C_2025_850_en.pdf.