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E-001335/2026

Answer given by Mr Hoekstra
on behalf of the European Commission
(20.5.2026)

As the Commission noted in its reply to written question P-001316/2026, the strategic importance of the offshore shipping sector is fully recognised. The Commission remains committed to ensuring legal certainty and a level playing field for the sector, together with incentivising decarbonisation.

To address issues raised by operators of offshore vessels, the Commission has already included additional clarifications in the guidance document¹ accompanying the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Regulation² and the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) Directive³.

The Commission is not envisaging proposing a temporary suspension of ETS obligations for offshore shipping operators. The focus is on assessing and identifying, in the context of the upcoming review of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), what additional measures may be introduced to further facilitate compliance by operators of offshore ships with ETS obligations and to prevent market distortion and safeguard the competitiveness of European operators in this sector.

¹ https://climate.ec.europa.eu/document/download/31875b4f-39b9-4cde-a4e2-fbb8f65ee703_en?filename=policy_transport_shipping_gd1_maritime_en.pdf.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2015/757/oj/eng>.

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003L0087-20240301>.