

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001669/26
to the Commission
Yannis Maniatis (S&D)
(23 April 2026)**

Subject: Great Sea Interconnector

The Great Sea Interconnector, recently included for the 7th time in the EU list of Projects of Common Interest (PCI), having received significant funding from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) and being one of the Energy Highways of the December 2025 European Grids Package, ‘meets the criteria of the TEN-E Regulation, including a positive cost-benefit analysis’, as the Commission acknowledges in its previous response (E-004589/2025/18.2.2026 ⁽¹⁾). However, in the autumn of 2025, the Greek and Cypriot authorities chose to delay the project, stating that they would commission a study to examine some of its economic parameters, which — according to reports — despite several months passing, has not yet been commissioned.

Given the deteriorating situation of the energy market due to successive war/energy crises, the Interconnector’s geopolitical and energy importance (ending Cyprus’s isolation, market integration, the promotion of green electricity, etc.), the Commission’s long-standing practical support for the project, but also its stated intention to accelerate the energy union in the EU:

1. Does the Commission know when commissioning of the study will take place and on what timetable?
2. Have the Greek and Cypriot authorities requested financial or technical assistance for the study from European institutions (Commission, EIB, etc.)?
3. Among its new initiatives to respond the energy crisis, is the Commission planning measures for interconnections that are facing serious implementation delays, such as this one?

Submitted: 23.4.2026

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(26 June 2026)**

The Great Sea Interconnector (GSI) is a Project of Common Interest ⁽¹⁾ under the Trans-European Networks for Energy (TEN-E) ⁽²⁾ and an Energy Highway as identified in the European Grids Package ⁽³⁾. It has also received a grant of EUR 657 million under the Connecting Europe Facility for Energy (CEF).

The Commission is aware that the Cypriot and Greek authorities are looking into certain economic parameters of the project with the objective of accelerating project implementation and, in this context, have requested the European Investment Bank (EIB) to undertake a due diligence assessment of the GSI, in view of a potential financing of the project. It is for the EIB to assess this request.

There has been no request to the Commission to participate in this assessment.

In the Grids Package of December 2025, the Commission proposed a further strengthening of the TEN-E Regulation, including through streamlined permitting rules and an updated cross-border infrastructure planning framework to accelerate project implementation.

In addition, the Commission identified eight energy highways, including the GSI project, to address major bottlenecks that hinder better market integration.

The Commission committed to fast-track these energy highways through enhanced political coordination and dedicated support to ensure rapid delivery.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004589-ASW_EL.html.

⁽¹⁾ C(2025) 8144 final.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2022/869 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2022 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure.

⁽³⁾ COM(2025) 1005 final.