

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001873/26
to the Commission
Arkadiusz Mularczyk (ECR)
(6 May 2026)**

Subject: Lack of EU standards on siting large-scale energy storage facilities close to residential buildings

In the municipality of Lisia Góra (Poland), the authorities are planning to rezone agricultural land for industrial use to accommodate a large-scale energy facility comprising hundreds of thousands of photovoltaic panels, energy storage facilities based on lithium-iron-phosphate batteries, transformer stations and high-voltage infrastructure. In this connection residents are expressing serious concerns about safety and the lack of appropriate regulations.

Currently, energy storage facilities are treated in the legislation in the same way as standard industrial facilities, without taking into account their specific features and potential risks. At the same time, there are no clear standards setting minimum distances between this type of infrastructure and residential buildings.

In this connection:

1. Does the Commission plan to introduce uniform EU-wide standards regarding the siting of large-scale energy storage facilities in relation to residential areas?
2. Do the current EU regulations on energy infrastructure safety take into account the specific features of energy storage facilities based on LFP batteries?
3. Is the Commission considering legislative initiatives to ensure minimum distances between such installations and residential housing?

Submitted: 6.5.2026

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(9 July 2026)**

As recognised by European leaders and reflected in the European Council conclusions of March 2026 ⁽¹⁾, it is crucial to accelerate the deployment of renewables and energy storage to reduce dependency on volatile fossil fuel markets and enhance EU security of supply. In that respect, the Commission welcomes initiatives to boost storage facilities.

That said, permitting processes for such projects, whether at European, national or local level, should include the assessment of all relevant safety issues and contain a relevant risk assessment, if applicable.

Article 12 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 ⁽²⁾ sets out the safety requirements for stationary battery energy storage systems placed on the market or put into service, regardless of their chemical composition. The safety parameters are laid out in details in Annex V of the regulation.

As part of the legislative proposal in the European Grids Package (currently under discussion by the co-legislators), the Commission has proposed measures to streamline and simplify permit-granting procedures for certain stand-alone storage projects ⁽³⁾.

Such streamlining is intended to reduce costs, delays and uncertainty without jeopardising safety and environmental standards. The proposals do not introduce distance rules or other spatial planning requirements, which remain at the discretion of the Member States.

⁽¹⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/03/20/european-council-conclusions/>.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 July 2023 concerning batteries and waste batteries, amending Directive 2008/98/EC and Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and repealing Directive 2006/66/EC (Text with EEA relevance). OJ L 191, 28.7.2023: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1542/oj/eng>.

⁽³⁾ Directive (EU) 2023/2413 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 October 2023 amending Directive (EU) 2018/2001, Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 and Directive 98/70/EC as regards the promotion of energy from renewable sources, and repealing Council Directive (EU) 2015/652. OJ L, 2023/2413, 31.10.2023: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2023/2413/oj>.