

EN

E-003125/2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(8.9.2026)

As regards the antimony mining plans referred to by the Honourable Member, the Commission has been made aware of them by written questions E-002085/2024¹, E-002980/2024², E-000429/2025³ and E-001718/2025⁴.

The Commission would like to remind that mining projects fall under the scope of Directive 2011/92/EU⁵. Depending on their size, they are either subject to an assessment of the environmental effects or a determination if such an assessment is necessary, based on a case-by-case analysis or by setting specific criteria (such as the location, size or type of project) before their authorization.

Where an assessment is required, Member States shall therefore take into account the impacts of the projects on cultural heritage or environmental aspects and the opinion of the concerned public to ensure sustainable development. Without prejudice to the Commission's role as guardian of the Treaties, it is primarily the responsibility of the Greek authorities to ensure that projects are developed in full compliance with EU environmental legislation.

The Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA)⁶ was designed to strengthen and diversify the EU's supply of strategic raw materials while fully maintaining the EU's high standards for public health, environmental protection and public participation. The CRMA does not lower existing environmental safeguards. Any mining project in the EU must continue to comply with the full body of applicable EU legislation, including requirements relating to environmental impact assessment, water protection, nature conservation, industrial emissions and public consultation.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2024-002085_EN.html.

² https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2024-002980_EN.html.

³ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-000429_EN.html.

⁴ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-001718_EN.html.

⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:02011L0092-20140515>.

⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:02024R1252-20240503>.