

**Question for written answer
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Eugenia Rodríguez Palop (The Left)

Subject: Macro cellulose plant threatens environment and water in Galicia

The Portuguese company Altri SGPS S.A., mainly dedicated to the production of cellulose paste and eucalyptus forest crops, has officially announced its intention to set up a soluble cellulose and vegetable fibre production plant in A Ulloa (Lugo), Spain. They aim to obtain 250 million euros of public funding through the PERTE industrial decarbonisation programme (NextGenerationEU). The project seeks to install a water catchment system with a flow of 46,000 cubic metres per day. In addition, the factory would discharge organic compounds (total phosphorus, total nitrogen, sulphates in a high temperature) into the river Ulla and would affect a body of water 1.5 km away with serious eutrophication problems. Due to a deterioration in the ecological status of the water bodies, the environmental objectives of the article 4 (a) for surface waters in the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC would be jeopardised.

As this project represents a breach of the DNSH Principle and does not comply with several environmental objectives of the Regulation (EU) 852/2020, such as the protection of water resources, does the Commission consider this project eligible for funding?

Also, does the Commission consider that this project is in line with the Directive 2000/60/EC?