

**Question for written answer E-002578/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 144

Mélanie Disdier (Pfe), Valérie Deloge (Pfe), Fabrice Leggeri (Pfe), Philippe Olivier (Pfe), Christophe Bay (Pfe), Anna Brylka (Pfe), Angéline Furet (Pfe), Filip Turek (Pfe), Aleksandar Nikolic (Pfe), Pascale Piera (Pfe)

Subject: Grants paid to suspended Eramet Group project

On 24 October 2024, French mining company Eramet announced that it had put its project for a battery recycling plant in Dunkirk on hold, after it received more than EUR 70 million in EU grants to build the plant. The situation raises legitimate concerns about the effectiveness of EU investments and how grants are awarded.

The European Union must take steps to ensure public funding effectively helps set up a favourable economic conditions for the reindustrialisation and job creation that will protect Europe's economic independence.

1. What studies did the Commission carry out to assess the project's feasibility before awarding these grants?
2. Since the project has been indefinitely put on hold, is the Commission planning to recover the grant awarded (payment of which, as of now, was unjustified)?
3. What conclusions can the Commission draw and what lessons can it learn from this latest industrial failure?

Submitted: 19.11.2024