

**Question for written answer E-000485/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Mass PFAS pollution in Salindres caused by a Belgian company that makes fluorinated products

A media investigation¹ has revealed record levels of PFAS pollution in Salindres (Gard department, France) emanating from the Solvay factory. At the end of 2023, nine out of ten samples taken from the Arias and Avène rivers, as well as from the drinking water of nearby municipalities, revealed very worrying concentrations of PFASs produced by Solvay, in particular levels of trifluoroacetic acid (TFA).

PFAS concentrations are measured in nanograms per litre, and yet TFA levels are as high as 7.6 million ng/l in the waste from the chemicals factory, and more than 6.7 million ng/l in the Arias in the area around the site.

1. Can the Commission ensure France's compliance with Article 14 of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions, given the significant levels of pollution emanating from the factory concerned and from all PFAS production sites in France?
2. Can the Commission explain why no limits for PFAS are set in the best available techniques laid down in Directive 2010/75/EU and why they are not taken into account in EU water legislation?
3. What measures does it intend to implement at EU level to tackle this systemic environmental health problem??

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¹ https://www.lemonde.fr/en/les-decodeurs/article/2024/02/07/record-levels-of-forever-chemicals-found-in-one-french-village-s-water-supply_6502237_8.html

² https://www.lemonde.fr/en/les-decodeurs/article/2023/02/23/revealed-the-massive-contamination-of-europe-by-pfas-forever-chemicals_6016906_8.html