

**Priority question for written answer P-002183/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Waste emergency in Rome (Malagrotta)

On Wednesday 15 June 2022, a fire ravaged the Malagrotta mechanical-biological waste treatment plant in Rome. Rome City Council issued a decree closing all childcare centres and summer schools in a 6km radius of the plant, prohibited the consumption of foodstuffs produced in the area and banned all animal grazing there. The public health impact of any dioxins released could be very serious indeed.

Waste-to-energy plants, with direct investment from construction companies and support through incentives, serve to ensure balanced waste management throughout Europe. Differentiated waste collection makes sense if plants have been constructed to further the measures taken by the public.

In the light of the above, can the Commission state:

1. whether it plans to inject greater flexibility into the implementation of the NRRPs to allow more funding to be allocated for the construction of waste treatment plants in a manner combining respect for the environment with public health;
2. whether it plans to amend the Renewable Energy Directive, the Circular Economy Action Plan and the Taxonomy Regulation to include waste-to-energy and anaerobic digestion plants among the Union's priorities; and
3. whether it intends to mobilise the EU Solidarity Fund in the event that the dioxin health emergency worsens?