




## Parliamentary questions

15 November 2013

E-013027-13

**Question for written answer  
to the Commission  
Rule 117  
Ashley Fox (ECR)**

### ▶ **Subject: Continuing pollution from the CEPSA oil refinery**

 Answer(s)

In early 2011 I raised my concerns with the Commission regarding pollution from the CEPSA oil refinery in Spain and its effect on local Spanish and Gibraltarian residents (Written Question **E-000834/2011**).

In its reply, the Commission stated that it had launched an investigation regarding the implementation of EU Directive 2008/1/EC and had found certain shortcomings with regard to the CEPSA oil refinery, but that action was being taken to rectify this situation.

Nearly three years later, air and water pollution from the CEPSA oil refinery continues to degrade the Bay of Gibraltar.

Will the Commission consider sending a team of inspectors to the CEPSA oil refinery to examine the petrochemical installations, in order to provide an independent, thorough assessment of pollution levels stemming from their activities?

OJ C 228, 17/07/2014

Last updated: 3 December 2013

[Legal notice](#)



## Parliamentary questions

4 February 2011


E-000834/2011

Question for written answer  
to the Commission

Rule 117

Ashley Fox (ECR)

► **Subject: CEPSA oil refinery**

 Answer(s)

I have been contacted by concerned constituents living in Gibraltar. They and I have read with interest the announcement that the CEPSA oil refinery near Gibraltar is celebrating the doubling of its output in 2010. Could the Commission say whether the refinery is now complying with its current operating license, issued under the 2007 Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive, and, if it is not, what steps the Commission will take to ensure compliance so that the pollution from the refinery does not harm local Spanish and Gibraltarian residents?

OJ C 286 E, 30/09/2011

Last updated: 9 February 2011

[Legal notice](#)



## Parliamentary questions

7 January 2014

E-013027/2013

### Answer given by Mr Potočník on behalf of the Commission

In the performance of its duties under the Treaties, the Commission has no competence to send a team of inspectors to the CEPESA oil refinery.

For further details concerning this refinery the Commission would refer the Honourable Member to its answer to Written Question [E-012286/2013](#).

---

OJ C 228, 17/07/2014

Last updated: 9 January 2014

[Legal notice](#)



## Parliamentary questions

11 December 2013

E-012286/2013

### Answer given by Mr Potočník on behalf of the Commission

1. The Commission has not received updated information on the CEPSA oil refinery. The data on the annual emissions of pollutants are publicly available in E-PRTR<sup>(1)</sup>.

2. Based on earlier exchanges with the Spanish authorities in 2010, the Commission has not identified any breach of the applicable EC law (in particular of the IPPC Directive 2008/1/EC<sup>(2)</sup>).

3. As from 31 December 2012, Member States had to take all necessary measures not entailing disproportionate costs to ensure that concentrations of pollutants, including nickel, covered by non-binding target values, do not exceed those values<sup>(3)</sup>. In the latest available yearly questionnaire related to 2012, Spain reported an exceedance of the target value of 20 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for nickel in ambient air<sup>(4)</sup> in the zone where the plant is located<sup>(5)</sup>.

4. Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions<sup>(6)</sup> replaces the IPPC Directive for existing installations as from 7 January 2014. It requires permitting authorities to use the Best Available Techniques (BAT) conclusions as the reference for setting the permit conditions. Such conclusions for the refining of mineral oil and gas are planned for adoption in 2014. Within four years after their publication, the national authorities have to ensure that all permits for refineries are updated accordingly and that the installations comply with those permit conditions.

<sup>(1)</sup> <http://prtr.ec.europa.eu>, the latest data concern the year 2011.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2008.

<sup>(3)</sup> According to Article 3 of Directive 2004/107/EC.

<sup>(4)</sup> One of the two monitoring stations measures 21 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, while the other measured 17 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>(5)</sup> ES0104 'Zona Industrial de Bahá a de Algeciras'.

<sup>(6)</sup> OJ L 334, 17.12.2010.

OJ C 221, 11/07/2014