

**Question for written answer E-015368/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Miguel Urbán Crespo (GUE/NGL), Xabier Benito Ziluaga (GUE/NGL) and Estefanía Torres  
Martínez (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Commissioner Cañete's approval of a proposed uranium mine

On 21 May 2015, Miguel Arias Cañete, Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, signed a positive opinion on an application from the Australian mining concern Berkeley to set up a uranium mine in the province of Salamanca (Spain). Berkeley's only lobbyist registered with the EU is Manuel Lamela, who was Mr Cañete's undersecretary when he was Spain's Minister of Agriculture. Manuel Lamela was registered as a lobbyist on 26 December 2014, a month and a half after Miguel Arias Cañete was appointed commissioner. Mr Lamela's presence provided Berkeley with privileged access to the Commission's energy department

- Does the Commission consider Berkeley to have benefited from the pre-existing relationship between Commissioner Cañete and the lobbyist Mr Lamela in obtaining approval for the proposed uranium mine?
- Does the Commission believe that, in taking this decision, the Commissioner could have broken his oath to act 'in complete independence and in the general interest of the Union'?
- Can the Commission publish any and all content that justified the Commission's decision?