

**Question for written answer E-015576/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Jørn Dohrmann (ECR)

Subject: Electricity network tariffs and competition

Competition is one of the most important concepts on which EU cooperation is founded. However, in some areas monopolies still exist. In Denmark, the amount of electricity network tariff (charge for the transport of electricity) customers are required to pay to a particular company is determined by location.

A Danish newspaper reports the case of a farmer being forced to pay some EUR 10 000 more per year than he would have paid to the next nearest company, only 8 km further away.

1. In the Commission's view, is it acceptable under the relevant EU rules to deny customers the right to decide for themselves which electricity network company they wish to transport their electricity, when they are allowed to determine who they buy it from?
2. What is the Commission's view of the fact that electricity companies apparently have a complete monopoly of transporting electricity, and are thus exempt from competition?

There are major differences between the electricity network tariffs of the various Danish electricity network companies. The EU seeks to be an organisation that protects consumers' safety and rights.

3. What is the Commission's view of the fact that some consumers are forced to pay far more than others for such investments, when this is based on geographical location, over which one has so little choice?