

**Question for written answer E-015604/2015/rev.2
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Norica Nicolai (ALDE)

Subject: Request for access to Commission documents underpinning a change in policy direction on the Renewable Energy Directive that has caused Romania to lose significant inward investment

The enactment of the Renewable Energy Directive attracted investors to Romania who were interested in investing in facilities for producing bioethanol and its co-product DDGS, a protein-rich animal feed.

Romania is recognised as having substantial potential in this field owing to its large area and its need to anchor agricultural investments, with predictions pointing to the creation of around 71 000 new jobs and the addition of over EUR 18 billion to the country's GDP.

Following the publication of the Commission's proposals to slash the mandate for ethanol in 2012, investor interest disappeared, and Romania, like other central and eastern European Member States, has been left with a huge but unrealised potential.

Given the very serious impacts of the Commission's policy on ethanol, and the continuing promise of ethanol in central and eastern European Member States, can the Commission:

1. supply Parliament's library with copies of all the studies on which its policy reversal on bioethanol is based, including the report of the consortium of Ecofys, IIASA and E4Tech on modelling of ILUC emission values associated with conventional and advanced biofuels consumption in the EU, which was finalised on 4 November 2015;
2. indicate what other studies constitute the 'best available science', as required under the Renewable Energy Directive, on which its policy reversal on bioethanol is based?