Question for written answer E-015136/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Rosa D'Amato (EFDD)

Subject: Update on Energas depot

Despite the closure of infringement procedure No 2001/4156 and the commitment to take compensatory measures, more than 16 hectares of the Energas site at Posta Spiriticchio, which lies in the *Valloni e Steppe pedegarganiche* SCI and the *Promontorio del Gargano* SPA have been ploughed up, thus degrading the natural habitat. When the local authorities approved the local SCI/SPA management plan, they adopted a preliminary policy paper (DPP) bringing the local land use plan (PRG) into line with the regional landscape plan (PPTR) and specifying that the land should be returned to agricultural use.

The area in question has been shown to be exposed to hydrogeological, landscape-related and seismic risks. The major incident risk distances specified for SCI/SPA areas have not been complied with, and there is no provision for a buffer zone. The requirements regarding public consultation and participation in decision-making, safety distances between plants and built-up areas, external emergency plans and compulsory assessment of safety reports that are laid down in Directive 2012/18/EU appear not to have been met. What is more, the depot would be no more than 10 kilometres away from Amendola military airport, at which MQ-9 Predator B drones are currently stationed and will in future be joined by F-35 multirole fighters, and the area is therefore of major strategic importance.

- In view of the above, does the Commission regard the depot as compatible with SPA objectives?
- Have any breaches of Directives 2012/18/EU, 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC occurred in connection with the project?

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