

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2263/09

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to the Commission

Subject: Tackling the environmental catastrophe at Ischia (Italy)

On 11 June 2008, the authors of the present question tabled a question entitled 'Environmental catastrophe in Ischia' (E-3253/08).

In its answer of 30 July 2008, the Commission recognised that under Directives 92/43/EEC¹ and 79/409/EEC², 'Italy has (...) to take measures (...) in order to ensure that the conservation values [of this marine Natura 2000 site] are maintained or restored'. This site, 'Fondali marini di Ischia, Procida e Vivara' (code: IT8030010) was, on 14 June 2007, imperilled by the breakage of an underwater cable belonging to the company Enel Spa.

The Commission undertook to 'contact the Italian authorities to verify whether Community legislation has been correctly applied in this case'.

Can the Commission:

1. provide information on the progress of the inquiry under way and on any further data obtained from the Italian authorities;
2. state whether, in the light of the information obtained, there has been a breach of the above directives in relation to this site;
3. if the directives have been breached, state what action it will take in order to ensure that the Italian authorities, taking account of the natural and landscape value of this site, act to repair any damage?

¹ OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7.

² OJ L 103, 25.4.1979, p. 1.