

FORM FOR TABLING A QUESTION FOR  
WRITTEN ANSWER (Rule 130)**Select only one addressee:**PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL  COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT / HIGH REPRESENTATIVE  COMMISSION Priority question 

AUTHOR(S): Molly Scott Cato MEP

SUBJECT: UK Grid Capacity  
(please specify)

## TEXT:

The UK grid is being upgraded to enable Hinkley Point C nuclear power plant to connect directly into the transmission network, with no upfront cost to the project owners. However, we believe all renewable energy projects in the South West are required to pay upfront for their connection to the distribution network if a grid upgrade is required.

Does the Commission consider it fair under EU competition law that large generators appear to have upgrade work provided with no upfront fees, while small generators have to pay upfront towards upgrade work?

In the South West, Western Power Distribution's (WPD) F route is at capacity. If Hinkley Point C goes ahead, the route will be replaced by a new transmission network. In the meantime, WPD has announced a 3-6 year delay in connecting new capacity to the south and west of this F route.

Does the Commission consider it fair under EU competition law for the grid to be upgraded to enable connection of the Hinkley project, when alternative changes could be made to enable smaller energy generators to connect to the grid on a shorter timeframe if the Hinkley grid upgrade was not going ahead?

Signature(s):

Date: 30/06/2015

