



Brussels, 19 October 2015

Commissioner Vestager,
Competition
European Commission

CC: Commissioner Vella,
Environment
European Commission

Dear Commissioner,

Peacelink has brought to the Commission's attention already in August 2014 (SA.38613(2014/CP)) that in the financial management of ILVA, there could have been an alleged infringement of the state aid rules of the European Union.

As You know, Peacelink is the author of the denunciation that led the European Environment Commission to launch the infringement procedure against Italy on industrial pollution.

Our concern is that the Italian government could have adopted laws which approve the use of sums seized by magistrates for ILVA's fiscal evasions. Moreover, it would appear that the Italian government uses public money, through the support to banks that extend loans to ILVA, for all urgent matters concerning ILVA's debts, daily financial management and payments.

We are in fact deeply preoccupied that while it is advocated that these sums are needed to put the plant at norm and to put in place urgent measures to stop pollution and ameliorate the obsolete infrastructure, in reality all measures foreseen by the ILVA permit have not been realised and keep on being postponed endlessly. Then, what would loans and financial support be for if not to extend ILVA's production and cover payements?

As Commissioner Vella knows, it would really seem that ILVA keeps on infringing EU laws on pollution. The results are not only visible day after day in Taranto – emissions are very evident- but keep on being reported by workers, citizens, doctors, reports compiled by ISPRA, and new investigations by magistrates.

We would thus like to urge the EU Commission to investigate on the new 800 million euros that have been provided by the Italian government to ILVA, as press has announced.

Urgent environmental measures that should have been already realised long ago, have not been realised and the situation in Taranto keeps on being extremely alarming.

Best regards,

Antonia Battaglia

Alessandro Marescotti

Luciano Manna

The image shows three handwritten signatures in black ink. From left to right: Antonia Battaglia, Alessandro Marescotti, and Luciano Manna. The signatures are written in a cursive style.

Peacelink
Apulia/Brussels