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Galician Nationalist Bloc's Parliamentary Group
Rivas Cruz, José Luis and 5 more

On the measures to guarantee the safety of the mining dikes of San Fins, in the municipality of Lousame
35908

To the Bureau of the Galician Parliament

Xosé Luis Rivas Cruz, Ana Belén Pontón Mondelo, Olalla Rodil Fernández, Montserrat Prado Cores, Noa Presas Bergantiños and Xosé Luis Bará Torres, deputies of the Galician Nationalist Bloc's Parliamentary Group, present the following parliamentary question for written answer pursuant to the provisions of this Chamber's Regulation,

At the hearing of the 1st of February of this year about the dikes of San Finx mines in Lousame, the General Director of Augas de Galicia (Waters of Galicia, a public company) pointed out that a request was made to Tungsten San Finx Limited Company in November 2016 in order to carry out the necessary works to guarantee the safety of the dike.

At the same intervention, the General Director said that he was not aware “of the existence of any imminent risk to the security of that dike”.

In December, the company tells Augas de Galicia that the dike is not the responsibility of the concession-holder, to which the General Director of the public company announces an “investigation” to determine the ownership of the dike. In order to do so, he seeks the cooperation of the Ministry of Economy, Employment and Industry, while insinuating that the origin of the dike could also be a former hydroelectric exploitation, which happens to be manifestly untrue.

We remind, in the first place, that in his hearing, the General Director stated that the dike did not represent an imminent risk, or rather, that he was not aware of it.

Even the company itself, which dared to say in May 2016 that the dike was “in a good state and does not cause any pollution”, changed its mind at the end of March this years and recognised that “the dike presents a high degree of deterioration”.

Finally, and in order to contribute modestly to the “investigation”, it is important to refer to a fact that was mentioned in the hearing of the Director General in February this year: the “disaster of 1960”. We use quotation marks so no one accuses us again of being alarmist, since it is not our words, but the words of the Mayor of Lousame at the time, who also went on writing: “This happened in 1960, due to the floods the board of the gates broke and thousands of tons of sands that were dragged by the water, covered a large area of the fertile meadows and left the lands barren. Some of them have no vegetation to this date”.

For all the above we pose the following questions for written answer:

1. Beyond the field visits in October and May 2016, limited to the visual observation of one of the dikes, has Augas de Galicia carried out a monitoring procedure of the premises, in accordance with the technical safety and mine management criteria, proving that there is, as of today, no risk, as they pointed out last February?
2. What is the exactly the result of the collaboration of the Galician Ministry of Economy, Employment and Industry in order to determine the ownership of the dikes? How does the Government interpret the fact that it was an environmental association that gave Augas de Galicia the information on the dikes the Ministry should have?
3. Do we know to whom the dike officially belongs?
4. If we do, did Augas de Galicia demand the owner to assume its responsibilities with regard to the two dikes in the San Fins River?
5. In relation to the above and to the discharge authorisation file, will Augas de Galicia condition the discharge to the restauration of the natural space affected by the dikes, compelling the concession-holder to eliminate the mining waste accumulated in the valley and in the dikes themselves?

Santiago de Compostela, 12th June 2017.

Signed: **Xosé Luis Rivas Cruz**
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