
OIL AND GAS DRILLING NEAR PROTECTED GREEK WHALE SITE SET TO GO AHEAD - IF COMMISSION DROPS COMPLAINT

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NGOs are urging the European Commission to take action on their complaint against Greece for giving permits to companies to drill for oil and gas affecting Marine Protected Areas in clear breach of EU and national laws.

Greece systematically gives a free pass to oil and gas projects off its coasts, directly jeopardising endangered species including sperm whales, bottlenose dolphins and loggerhead turtles.

In December 2023 ClientEarth, WWF Greece and Greenpeace Greece lodged a complaint with the European Commission asking them to hold Greece to account to ensure it safeguards these protected sites and the areas biodiversity. The Commission is now threatening to close that complaint with no action taken, however their response does not coherently address arguments made about the violation of EU nature legislation, especially, the lack of appropriate assessment.

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