



Helpdesk

EU NEWS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF “ACQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE”

6/10/2008

Environment:
Proposal for a Directive on industrial emissions

The IPPC Directive

(IPPC = Integrated Pollution Prevention & Control)

Towards a future policy on industrial emissions



Commission takes steps to cut industrial emissions further

On 21 December 2007 the Commission adopted a [Proposal for a Directive on industrial emissions](#). The Proposal recasts seven existing Directives related to industrial emissions into a single clear and coherent legislative instrument. The recast includes in particular the IPPC Directive.

The recast includes the IPPC Directive, the [Large Combustion Plants Directive](#), the [Waste Incineration Directive](#), the [Solvents Emissions Directive](#) and 3 Directives on [Titanium Dioxide](#).

The IPPC Directive has been in place for over 10 years and the Commission has undertaken a [2 year review](#) with all stakeholders to examine how it, and the related legislation on industrial emissions, can be improved to offer the highest level of protection for the environment and human health while simplifying the existing legislation and cutting unnecessary administrative costs. The results of this review have provided clear evidence of the need for action to be taken at a Community level.

See also [Press Release](#) and [Questions and Answers](#) about the new Proposal.

The IPPC Directive has recently been codified ([Directive 2008/1/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2008 concerning integrated pollution prevention and control).

The codified act includes all the previous amendments to the Directive 96/61/EC and introduces some linguistic changes and adaptations (e.g. updating the number of legislation referred to in the text). The substance of Directive 96/61/EC has not been changed and the adopted new legal act is without prejudice to the new Proposal for a Directive on Industrial Emissions.

The Commission's proposal will lead to significant benefits to the environment and human health by reducing harmful industrial emissions across the EU, in particular through better application of Best Available Techniques (BATs). For the large combustion plants alone it will achieve net benefits of €7-28 billion per year, including the reduction of premature deaths and years of life lost by 13,000 and 125,000 respectively.

Minimum provisions covering the inspection of industrial installations, the review of permits, reporting on compliance and protection of soil will be introduced with consequent environmental improvements. The scope of the legislation will be clarified and amended to include some new activities bringing further benefits for the environment and human health.

The streamlining of permitting, reporting and monitoring requirements as well as a renewed cooperation with Member States to simplify implementation will lead to a reduction in unnecessary administrative burden of between €105 and €255 million per year.

The Commission will continue to support Member States to improve implementation of the existing legislation, and has updated its [IPPC Action Plan](#) for the period 2008-2010 with this in mind.

The inter-institutional procedure for this proposal can be monitored using the [Pre-Lex database](#).

This Directive is expected to replace the current IPPC – Directive by 2012.