

Eurobrief June 2010

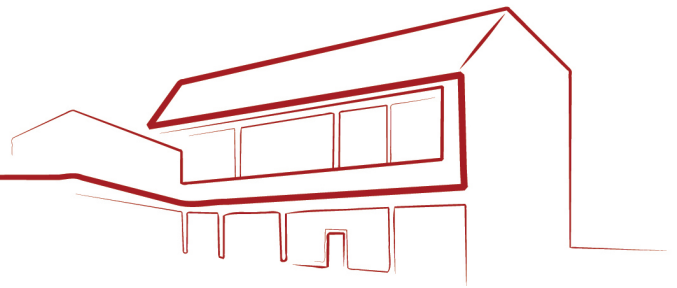
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EU EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME

Member States unlikely to vote on benchmarks before the summer

The European Commission is unlikely to reveal the draft benchmarks for the allocation of free carbon allowances under the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) before the summer. Benchmarks based on the most efficient installations in any given sector will be used to determine how many free allowances installations get, and those deemed at risk of carbon leakage will get more. Another stakeholder meeting is due to be held in July.



EU EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME

Report disputes Commission figures on emissions reduction

A recently published Deutsche Bank report disagrees with the European Commission's analysis relating to greenhouse gas emission reduction targets on certain key points. While the report accepts that it is cheaper now (because of the crisis) to reach the 20% GHG reduction target and that, therefore, the 3% reduction scenario is more realistic than it was in the past, it disagrees with the assumption that the EU's 2020 renewables and energy-efficiency targets will be fully reached.

As a result, the report predicts that EU ETS firms must make carbon cuts even with the current 2020 emission target. Within the 20% scenario, the need for domestic abatement amounts to 18Mt/year, while under the 30% scenario, this amounts to 85Mt/year. The report also says that restrictions on the use of certain kinds of CERs in the ETS beyond 2012, as envisaged by the Commission's Communication, would be counterproductive.

Overall, the report, entitled 'Hard to Credit: ETS Offset Use Again in the Spotlight', finds that the European Commission has significantly overestimated the emission reduction effects of its renewable energy and energy efficiency policies. It estimates that participants in the EU ETS will emit 183Mt of CO₂ more per year over the 2008-2020 period than the Commission predicted last month.

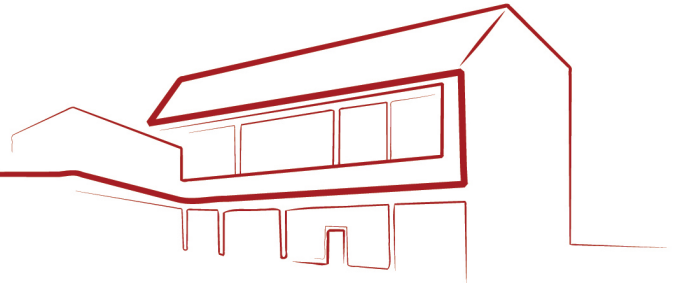
EU EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME

Decision on CCS demonstration projects to be published in the Official Journal

A Commission Decision on laying down criteria and measures for the financing of commercial demonstration projects that aim at the environmentally safe capture and geological storage of CO₂ as well as demonstration projects of innovative renewable energy technologies should be published in the EU's Official Journal shortly. This follows the decision by the European Parliament's Green/EFA Group to withdraw its proposed motion for a resolution on the Draft Commission Decision. The Commission reassured Parliament that renewable energy projects would receive an equal share of funding, if the amount requested for renewable projects was equal to the amount requested for CCS projects. No objections to the withdrawal of the motion were raised.

The motion for a resolution can be found here:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2009_2014/documents/envi/re/810/810529/810529en.pdf



EU EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME

Commission adopts guidelines on CCS emissions monitoring

The European Commission has adopted a Decision on the provision of guidelines for monitoring and reporting emissions from the capture, transport and geological storage of carbon dioxide. The guidelines, which are a requirement under the EU's Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS), are targeted at ETS installations using carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology. The adoption of the guidelines is designed to provide stakeholders with regulatory certainty and give them time to prepare for 2013, when the third phase of the Emissions Trading Scheme comes into operation.

The draft Commission Decision can be found here:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/ccs/pdf/mrq.pdf>

EU EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME

EEA report questions Commission position on emission reduction figures

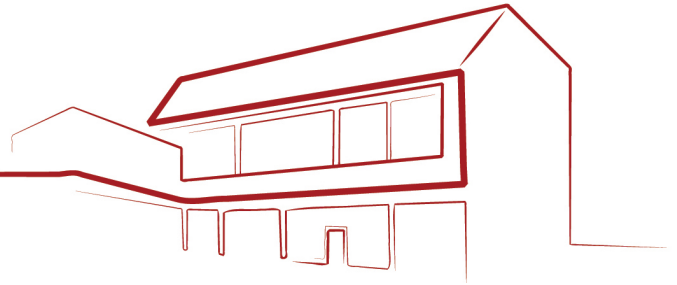
Increased use of renewables and the economic downturn have contributed to emission reductions, according to new European Environment Agency (EEA) figures. These show that EU greenhouse gas emissions continued their downward trend in 2008, and have also picked up pace. Emissions in the EU stood 11.3% below their 1990 levels, while the EU-15 achieved a reduction of 6.9% compared to Kyoto base-year levels.

A combination of high coal and carbon prices accompanied by a drop in natural gas prices in 2008 has also led to heat and electricity producers replacing more polluting coal by gas and, as a result, reducing their GHG emissions.

Aviation emissions will have to drop further from 2012 following the sector's inclusion in the EU's Emission Trading Scheme (ETS), and the European Commission is ready to propose the inclusion of shipping in the ETS if there no global agreement to cut its emissions by 2011.

The report can be found here:

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/european-union-greenhouse-gas-inventory-2010>



EU EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME

Growing pressure to allow Member States to set energy efficiency targets

There is growing pressure within the European Council to allow Member States to choose how to set their own energy efficiency targets. This is in contrast to the European Commission, which wants a common approach to defining individual targets.

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/10/st09/st09767.en10.pdf>

EU EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME

Member States scheduled to vote on EU ETS auctioning in July

A Regulation on the timing, administration and other aspects of auctioning of greenhouse gas emission allowances, due for completion according to the EU ETS Directive by the end of June 2010, will not be finalised until autumn 2010. The Regulation, which is being decided through the EU's comitology procedure, must still undergo a three-month scrutiny period by the European Parliament. The Draft Regulation shows that the European Commission wants tough controls on national carbon auctioning platforms, despite Member State opposition. These controls would enable the Commission to propose suspending national auctioning schemes if they breach EU ETS auctioning rules. Sanctions would have to be approved through comitology, and allowances would then be auctioned through an EU platform.

Member States are scheduled to vote on these draft auctioning proposals on 14 July.

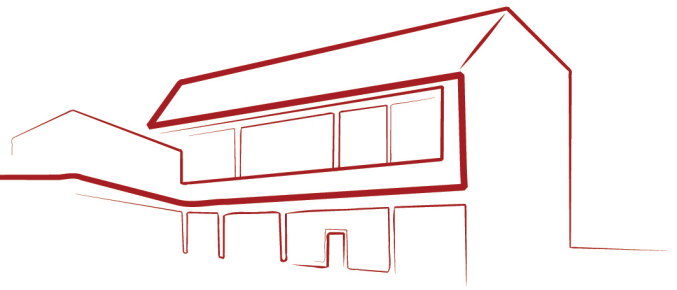
The proposed auctioning regulation can be found here:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/emission/pdf/proposed_auctioning_reg.pdf

EU EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME

Airline concern over entry into the ETS

The airline industry is concerned that the allocation of permits under the EU's Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) will lead to significant trade distortion. They are also concerned about a Commission official statement that travel disruptions caused by volcanic ash would only have a small impact on the distribution of carbon allowances for the sector. The aviation sector is



scheduled to join the ETS in 2012. While its total emission cap for 2012 will be based on average emissions in 2004-6, the share of allowances going to airlines for the period 2012-2020 will depend on their activity in 2010. The airline industry says that this is unfair, given that many firms have suffered from a significant drop in activity.

A press release from the Association of European Airlines can be found here:
<http://files.aea.be/News/PR/Pr10-025.pdf>

EU EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME

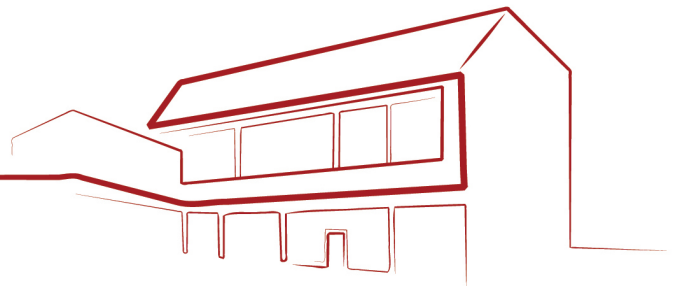
Alliance of Energy Intensive Industries publishes position papers on ETS issues

A Position Paper of the [Alliance of Energy Intensive Industries](#) covering the treatment of new entrants to the EU ETS was published in June. The European Commission is considering severely restricting access to the New Entrants' Reserve (NER) within the EU ETS scheme post 2012 by applying a high threshold for access to the NER and restricting the allocation of allowances from the NER to installations explicitly mentioned in Annex I of the EU ETS Directive.

The Position Paper states that while growth of efficient manufacturing businesses in the EU should be supported, such rules would significantly disadvantage and discourage growing companies and productions. "Such clear signal on a no-growth policy would weaken the position of the Community in the international negotiations and is not in line with the Commission Communication "Europe 2020", says the Alliance. The Alliance wants to see fair access to the NER with equal treatment between incumbents and new entrants and without undue discrimination of activities not explicitly mentioned in Annex I.

A second Position Paper on the calculation of the maximum amount of allowances for free allocation has also been published by the Alliance. The paper states that the basis for free allocation should include the emissions from the following installations which will receive allowances according to performance benchmarks:

- » emissions stemming from electricity production from unavoidable waste gases;
- » emissions from the production of heat and cooling in high efficiency cogeneration installation (CHP);
- » emissions from new activities including N₂O emissions in certain Member States, which will be included in the EU ETS as of 2013 onwards.



If these emissions are not taken into account correctly, the maximum amount of allowances available for industry and therefore potentially for free allocation will be smaller than justifiable, says the Alliance.

Concern that the EU's Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) appears not to be promoting Combined Heat and Power (CHP) were also expressed at the first joint Euroheat & Power and Cogen Europe conference. The European Commission, however, has defended the EU's support framework for the heat and power sector, saying that, given its local nature, heat was best addressed at national level, not EU.

Position papers of the Alliance of Energy Intensive Industries in pdf:

[Treatment of New Entrants: No auctioning for growth but equal treatment of new entrants and incumbents - 10 June 2010](#)

[Calculation of the maximum amount of allowances for free allocation \(Article 10a.5, Emissions Trading Directive\) - 8 June 2010](#)

ENVIRONMENT

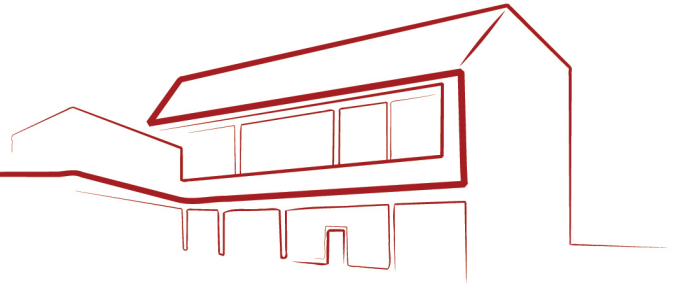
Deal reached on the Industrial Emissions Directive

European Parliament and Member State negotiators reached an agreement on the revision of the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive (IPPC) on Friday, 18 June. The deal will lead to the Industrial Emissions Directive, incorporating IPPC and six other pollution laws. The agreement must now be formally adopted by the Parliament's full assembly and the Council of Ministers before becoming law. This deal is among Spain's main environmental achievements during its EU Presidency.

The biggest disputes between governments and MEPs had been on how much leeway plants should be given on applying best available techniques. The European Parliament had wanted tightly-defined European standards, while environment ministers had insisted on the need for flexibility. In the end, the ministers mostly won this battle.

Under the deal, the two conditions for deviating from best available techniques (BAT) - geographical location or local environmental conditions and technical characteristics - should also show that applying BAT would lead to "disproportionately high costs" compared to the environmental benefits.

The negotiators dropped a safeguard clause introduced by MEPs that would prevent national authorities from granting BAT derogations that would cause significant damage to the environment. The deal backs minimum emission limit values proposed by German Liberal MEP



Holger Kraemer for sectors with a high environmental impact or where BAT is not properly implemented. The limits will be decided through the co-decision procedure following sectoral assessments. No deadline has been set for the first reports.

The European Parliament was also forced to give in to governments on extending the life of large combustion plants. Holger Kraemer, a German Liberal MEP, who led negotiations for the European Parliament, said: "The discussion on large combustion plants is a European tragedy." Mr Kraemer agreed, however, that "the agreement was an improvement on the existing Directive", but he conceded that "it is not a big jump". "We have to accept that more from the current position is not achievable," he said.

Germany, Austria, Ireland and Denmark had criticised the Directive for its lack of ambition and refused to support the common ministerial position agreed earlier this year. Germany's deputy ambassador to the EU told his counterparts that Germany was still unhappy with the flexibility in the Directive, but that Germany would not block it.

"We would have hoped for more discipline and fewer exemptions... but it certainly is a step forward and when Parliament and Council are finding a basis for agreement, we cannot stand in the way," said Karl Falkenberg, the director-general of the European Commission's environment department. The Parliament will vote on the draft law in July and ministers have to give a formal rubber stamp in the autumn, but neither process is expected to stop the law getting into the EU's rule book before the end of the year.

As far as the cement industry specifics are concerned, the technical provisions relating to waste incineration plants and waste co-incineration plants, i.e. the exemption for NO_x and the provision CO for cement kilns, are secured.

The Commission's original proposal can be found here:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2007:0844:FIN:ET:PDF>

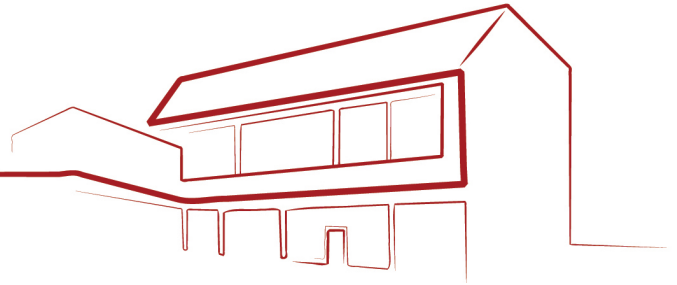
ENVIRONMENT

Cement and Lime BREF published in Official Journal

On 25 June 2010 the reference document on best available techniques for the Cement, Lime and Magnesium Oxide Manufacturing Industries was published in the Official Journal of the European Union. This follows its adoption, on 18 May, by the European Commission.

The BREF can be found at the JRC's Institute for Prospective Technological Studies website:

<http://ipts.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>



ENVIRONMENT

Ecodesign study application to kilns

On 24 June, CEMBUREAU participated in a stakeholders meeting aimed at reviewing the first draft of a report commissioned by DG Enterprise and carried out by Cobham and Bio Intelligence service entitled "Sustainable Industrial Policy - Building on the Eco-design Directive - Energy-Using Products Group Analysis Lot 4: Industrial and Laboratory Furnaces and Ovens - Tasks 1 - 3".

Industrial and laboratory furnaces and ovens include a very wide variety of equipment and CEMBUREAU believes that cement kilns should not be addressed as the improvement potential is addressed through existing legislation and as there is little potential in terms of new units.

CEMBUREAU will provide the required information to the consultants after the summer as requested.

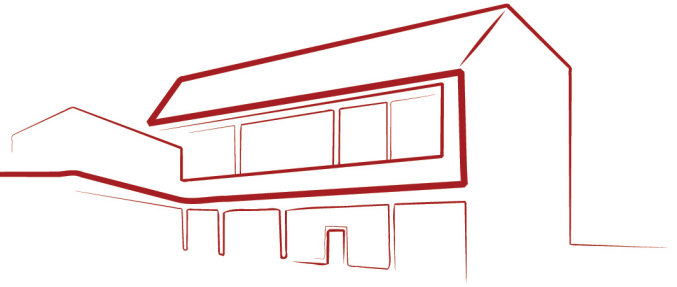
A second stakeholder's consultation will be held in the first quarter of 2011 and the final report is expected by the end of 2011.

ENVIRONMENT

Commission distances itself from introducing new biodiversity rules

The head of the Commission's DG Environment, Karl Falkenberg, told a conference during Green Week that the EU did not need new directives on biodiversity. Mr Falkenberg said that Europe should instead focus its efforts on using market-based mechanisms, for example where credits for beneficial action are used to offset damage caused to the environment.

CEMBUREAU's position paper on biodiversity can be found here:
<http://www.cembureau.eu/cembureau-biodiversity-position-paper>



ENVIRONMENT

Decoupling growth from resource use a priority, says Environment Commissioner

Environment Commissioner Janez Potočnik told an audience at Green Week that Europe would have to tackle the issue of decoupling growth from resource use. A report of the International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management identified the agricultural and energy sectors as having the greatest environmental impact, and being the most crucial to reform. The European Commission is already considering introducing an EU carbon tax on energy consumption as part of a revision of the energy taxation directive.

The report can be found here:

http://www.unep.fr/shared/publications/pdf/WEBx0159xPA-PriorityProductsAndMaterials_Summary_EN.pdf

ENVIRONMENT

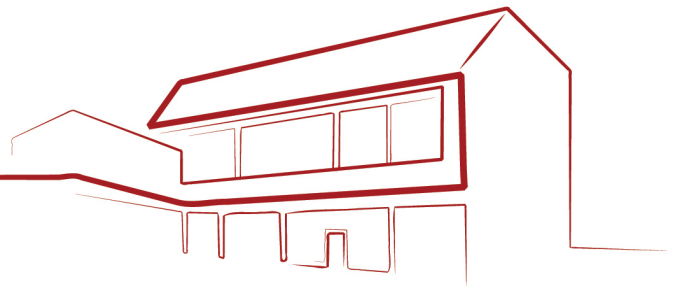
Proposal to review energy products taxation Directive postponed until Autumn 2010

The proposal to review the energy products taxation Directive has been postponed to the autumn 2010. The proposal would review Directive 2003/96/EC to introduce a minimum harmonised tax on energy products based on their CO₂ emissions and additional taxes based on the energy content.

The college of Commissioners held an orientation debate on the future proposal on 23 June 2010. The Commissioners all agreed on the principle of revising Directive 2003/96/EC and on introducing a minimum harmonised carbon tax on energy. However, concerns were raised over the impacts of a carbon tax on energy on consumers and vulnerable sectors such as agriculture. Some derogations may therefore be added to the proposal.

A flat rate applied to both motor fuels and heating fuels is under consideration, though some exemptions are likely for industrial sectors at risk of carbon leakage. The proposal would be a Council Directive, and would aim to cover all energy sectors but avoid overlap with the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). Consequently the proposal would introduce an exemption for CO₂ taxation of energy products that fall under the ETS scheme to avoid cumulative costs for CO₂ reductions. The exemption of biomass from CO₂ taxation was also discussed.

It is unclear when the Commission will adopt the proposal but the aim is to propose it as soon as possible. It is likely to be postponed until the autumn 2010. The proposal will then be sent to the



European Parliament for a non-binding opinion and to the Council for adoption by unanimity.

ENVIRONMENT

UN climate change talks end in Bonn

UN climate change talks in Bonn took place from 31 May to 9 June 2010, with the final outcome to be presented at the UN Climate Change Conference in Cancun (COP 16) at the end of this year. The Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) undertook detailed discussions on reducing greenhouse gases, adapting to the inevitable effects of climate change, the transfer of clean technology and reducing emissions from deforestation and capacity building. All industrialised countries have pledged emission reduction targets, and 39 developing countries have pledged voluntary actions to limit their greenhouse gas emissions. The pledges made by rich countries so far add up to about 12-19% of emissions over 1990 levels by 2020.

The next UNFCCC negotiating session is scheduled to take place in August in Bonn, followed by a second one-week intersessional meeting before the UN Climate Change Conference in Cancun.

The farewell statement from Yvo de Boer, executive secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, can be found here:

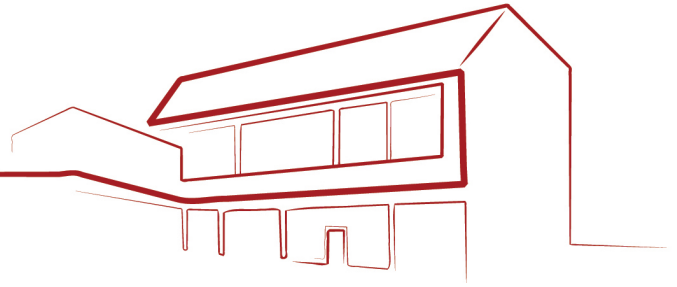
http://unfccc.int/files/press/statements/application/pdf/100609_yvo_speech_farewell.pdf

ENVIRONMENT

UNEP prepares a global legally binding instrument on mercury

The first meeting of the United Nations Environment Programme - UNEP Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC1) - was convened with the mandate to elaborate a legally binding instrument on mercury. The meeting, held from 7-11 June 2010 in Stockholm, Sweden, was attended by over 400 participants representing governments, UN agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations. CEMBUREAU attended as a non-governmental organisation. Delegates at INC1 began work on the development of a legally binding instrument on mercury by engaging in initial exchanges of views on key elements of a convention.

Concerning atmospheric emissions, the so-called "Paragraph 29 Study" will focus on "top"



mercury emitting countries and significant contributors to global mercury emissions in each sources category. Selected countries are: Brazil, China, India, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United States of America, and the EU. The study will focus on largest sources categories. Cement kilns are included. CEMBUREAU and the Cement Sustainability Initiative (CSI) joined forces to tackle this issue, and jointly launched a study carried out by the University of Liège (Belgium) with the aim of compiling worldwide data on the status of mercury emissions from cement kilns, sharing state of the art knowledge about mercury and its derivatives behaviour in cement production processes, and defining best environmental practices in order to control and minimise mercury emissions from cement kilns through the use of integrated process optimisation (primary measures). The final report was issued in April 2010 and communicated to UNEP as an input to the "The Paragraph29 Study".

INC1 was the first of five meetings anticipated to convene prior to the 27th session of the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum in 2013. INC2 will take place from 24-28 January 2011, in Chiba, Japan. Japan suggested naming the instrument "Minamata Convention on Mercury". Delegates predicted that the substantive debate at INC2 would be dominated by atmospheric emissions. The most controversial substantive issue facing the INC process, however, is bound to be the unintentional mercury emissions caused by coal combustion.

BUILDINGS & BUILDING MATERIALS

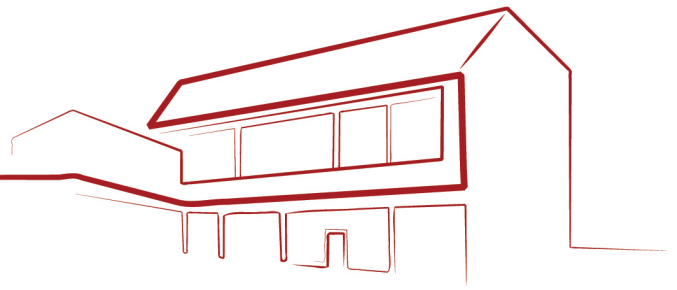
Cooling and refrigeration emissions to increase, says study

Emissions from the air conditioning and refrigeration sector will increase by over a quarter by 2020 relative to 2005 levels, claims a study carried out on behalf of the European Commission. This could impact on the energy performance of buildings, seen as key to achieving the EU's 2020 climate and energy objectives. The research, conducted by the IIASA institute, focused on non-CO2 greenhouse gases such as f-gases and methane. Nonetheless, despite the predicted increase, the cooling sector will continue to represent less than 10% of total non-CO2 GHG emissions. Even so, reducing cooling sector emissions is likely to cost over €30 per tonne. The study predicts that total non-CO2 emissions in the EU will fall by 14% by 2030 compared to 2005.

The IIASA study can be found here: <http://www.iiasa.ac.at/>

The 2010 Directive on the energy performance of buildings can be found here:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2010:153:0013:0035:EN:PDF>



HEALTH AND SAFETY

REACH enforcement project finds quarter of companies 'non-compliant'

Nearly a quarter of companies surveyed have been found not to be fully compliant with pre-registration requirements under the REACH chemicals regulation. Most non-compliance cases related to minor errors made during chemicals pre-registration or in the preparation of safety data sheets. Almost 1,600 companies were investigated between May and December of last year, and the enforcement project, which is designed to enforce the core 'no data, no market' principle of REACH, has now been extended to early 2011 in order to assess compliance with the first registration deadline of 30 November.

The REACH-EN-FORCE 2 project is currently being planned and will become operational in April 2011. This project will target formulators of mixtures, as a natural continuation of the first EU-wide enforcement project. Although the project is still being developed, it is likely to focus on downstream user obligations relating to compliance with REACH safety data sheet requirements and use-related duties.

A report on penalties applicable for infringement of the provisions of the REACH Regulation in the Member States can be found here:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/reach/pdf/report%20REACH%20penalties.pdf>

The ECHA press release can be found here:

http://echa.europa.eu/doc/press/pr_10_10_FORUM_1_06_10.pdf

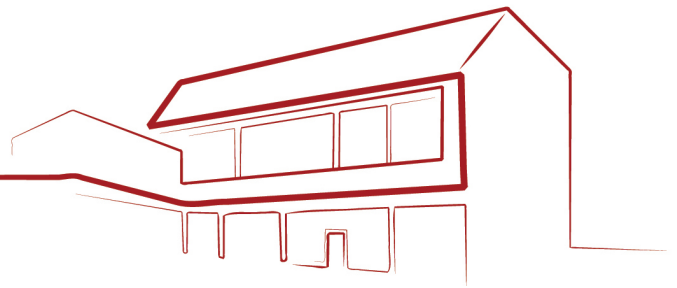
HEALTH AND SAFETY

ECHA announces six month moratorium on publication of guidance documents

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) announced a six-month moratorium on the publication of ten guidance documents earlier this month. The moratorium is designed to give industry the opportunity to focus on preparing dossiers for registration and the CLP notifications by the first REACH registration deadline of 30 November 2010, rather than getting bogged down in the consultation processes. Industry has indicated to ECHA that work on guidance updates and new guidance in 2010 has taken a lot of effort and time to prepare.

The following ten guidance documents have been postponed until after the first REACH registration deadline of 30 November 2010:

Guidance on registration



» *Amendment of Annex V guidance (e.g. on Genetically Modified Organisms)*

» *Amendment of Guidance on monomers and polymers*

» *Guidance on intermediates (clarification of the concept of strictly controlled conditions)*

Guidance on Information Requirements & Chemical Safety Assessment

» *Scope of exposure assessment*

» *Exposure based adaptation and strictly controlled conditions*

» *Exposure scenarios for waste life cycle stage*

» *Derivation of DNELs/DMELs from human data*

Guidance on substances in articles

Guidance on Safety Data Sheets

Guidance on the CLP Regulation

» *Application of the CLP criteria (labelling)*

An ECHA press release can be found here:

http://echa.europa.eu/doc/press/na_10_31_moratorium_of_ten_guidance_updates_20100602.pdf

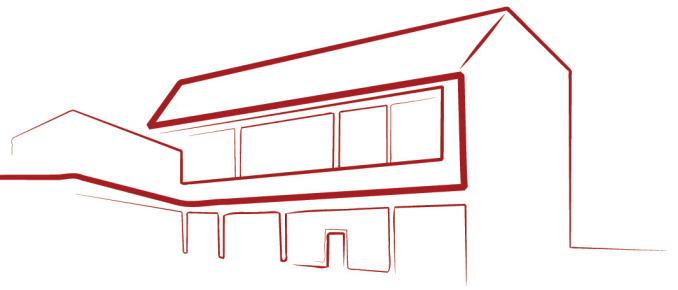
WASTE

MEPs back new legislation tackle biowaste

The European Parliament's Environment Committee has called for a Directive on biowaste with mandatory separate collection. MEPs overwhelmingly adopted Jos  Manuel Fernandes (European Peoples' Party, Portugal)'s motion for a resolution, which urged the Commission to rethink its position that new legislation is unnecessary. The Commission favours strengthening existing legislation.

A statement by Jos  Manuel Fernandes MEP is available here:

<http://www.eppgroup.eu/press/showpr.asp?PRControlDocTypeID=1&PRControlID=9420&PRContentID=16166&PRContentLG=en>



CEMBUREAU

CEMBUREAU participates in European Minerals Conference

The European Minerals Conference, hosted by the Spanish Presidency in Madrid on June 16-18, 2010, managed to gather the key players of the European Commission dealing with the Raw Materials Initiative, and counted on the presence of the European Commission Vice-President Antonio Tajani, responsible for Industry and Entrepreneurship, who closed the event. The focus of the European Minerals Conference was the interim results of the cooperative work of the Minerals Industry with the European Commission and its working groups on the Raw Materials Initiative, launched by the Commission in 2008, whose reports will be launched at the Raw Materials Supply Group meeting today, 25 June, 2010.

The definition of the 14 most critical raw materials has been the top priority of the Raw Materials Initiative, but the Minerals Industry has gained support and visibility to their concerns related to securing access to raw materials from European resources. CEMBUREAU and OFICEMEN were among the collaborators of the European Minerals Conference, as well as cement/aggregates companies, as sponsors. Figures on the cement industry showing the relevance of the sector were presented and the CEMBUREAU partnership in the European Minerals Day was highlighted.

The Minerals Industry has recommended the Raw Materials Initiative to adopt these proposals and to incorporate them in the final communication on the Initiative expected by end-2010, which was acknowledged by the European Commission at the event.

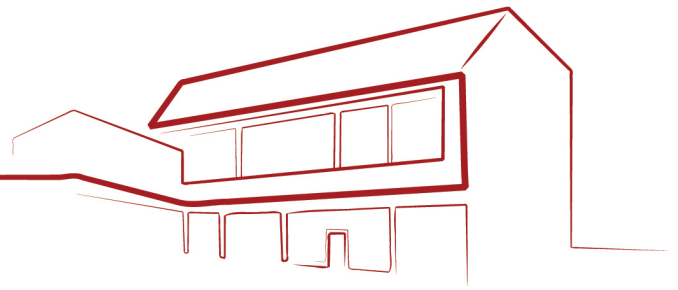
The Minerals Day conference programme can be found here:

http://www.madrid2010rmi.com/programa_en.pdf

CEMBUREAU

European Minerals Day partners answer questions at Green Week

The European Minerals Day Partners were present at Green Week to answer questions related to their successful pan-European Open Day event, and to encourage citizens to take part in the next event in 2011. In May 2009, this biannual event engaged children and adults at more than 160 sites in 27 countries, and placed a particular focus on biodiversity. Quarries may host a variety of rare plant and animal species, and many companies were therefore proud to guide visitors along through rehabilitated areas.



"A continuous flow of information between stakeholders on what has been done and what can be done is essential," said Dr Jean-Marie Chandelle, CEMBUREAU Chief Executive. "Only as such, can we, in partnership with universities, NGOs and administrations enhance our understanding of biodiversity and together create further win-win solutions."

The [European Minerals Day \(EMD\)](#) is an initiative by the European minerals sectors and related organisations providing European citizens with the opportunity to explore the world of minerals and discover more about an industry that affects every aspect of our lives. The current, core EMD partners are:

- » CEMBUREAU, the European Cement Association
- » ELO, the European Landowners Organisation
- » IMA-Europe, the European Industrial Minerals Association
- » UEPG, the European Aggregates Association.

The next event will be held from 12-14 May 2011. Examples of biodiversity cases studies can be found here: www.mineralsday.eu/biodiversity/

CEMBUREAU's biodiversity case study database can be found here:
<http://www.cembureau.eu/topics/biodiversity/case-studies>

OTHER NEWS

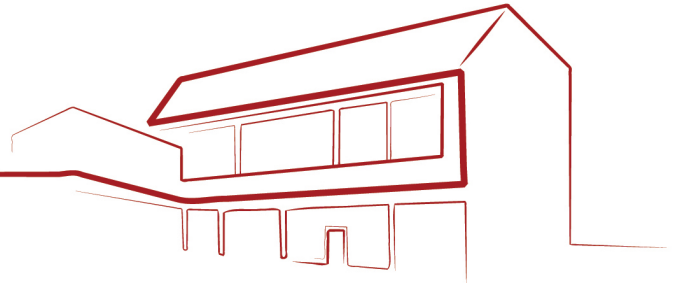
Debate held on future of standardisation

At the end of June a debate was held in the European Parliament regarding the future of standardisation. An ANEC proposal was underlined both by the rapporteur and the Commission: to create a second production line for standards in fields where there is high public interest. The participants in the process would be from defined stakeholder categories, (if the ISO 26000 model is followed, there would be six categories: industry, government, consumers, labour, NGOs and 'others' - all with the same rights in the process). In addition, the vital national check and balance would remain, provided by the usual vote of national standards bodies on the adoption of the European standard and its publication as a national standard.

In relation to the next steps, the Commission will launch its standardisation package in November 2010. The IMCO (Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection) report on the



The European Cement Association



Commission Communication will be debated on the 12th of July, with adoption by IMCO in September 2010 and by Plenary in October 2010.

The CEMBUREAU position on this issue can be found in the editorial of the [March Eurobrief](#).