



EU Environment Report

October 2012

CHEMICALS

Proposals to apply existing lead and cadmium exemptions to new RoHS Directive

The Directive on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment ("RoHS") has recently been revised. Exemptions to restrictions for lead and cadmium were agreed upon last year, which means they were not included in the revised RoHS Directive. These exemptions apply to (1) lead used in some ceramic materials inside capacitors, and (2) cadmium in photoresistors for analogue optocouplers in audio equipment. The Commission now proposes two delegated Directives, which will continue the application of these two exemptions by adding them to the revised RoHS Directive.

To read more about the lead exemption, please click on the following link: <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/12/st14/st14902.en12.pdf>

To read more about the cadmium exemption, please click on the following link: <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/12/st14/st14904.en12.pdf>

ECHA publishes list of 116 substances to be evaluated

On 23 October, the European Chemicals Agency ("ECHA") published a draft list of 116 substances to be evaluated for health and environmental risks under REACH. The substances have been assigned to Member States, which will be responsible for evaluating them between 2013 and 2015. The list is known as the Community Rolling Action Plan, or CoRAP. It represents an expansion of the 2012 – 2014 CoRAP, which listed 90 substances for evaluation.

The draft CoRAP for 2013 – 2016 is available at the following link: http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13628/draft_corap_2013-2015_en.pdf

CLIMATE CHANGE

Commission publishes emission caps for non-ETS sectors

On 18 October, the European Commission published the annual emission allocation limits for sectors not covered by the Emissions Trading Scheme ("ETS"). The draft Commission Decision lays down the greenhouse gas emission limits in tonnes to which each Member State must adhere for each year between 2013 and 2020. The European Parliament and the Council now have three months to review the text of the Decision. If they do not raise any objections, the

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This newsletter briefly describes EU environment developments.

Due to the general nature of its content, this newsletter is not and should not be regarded as legal advice.

European Commission will adopt it in its current form.

The full text of the draft Decision is available at the following link:
http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/effort/framework/docs/draft_decision_aeas_esd_en.pdf

ECO-DESIGN

New eco-design requirements for domestic tumble dryers

On 3 October, the Commission adopted a Regulation establishing eco-design requirements for household tumble dryers. All household tumble dryers must comply with these requirements before being placed on the market in the EU. The requirements do not apply to household combined washer-dryers. Although the Regulation applies from 1 November 2013, the generic eco-design requirements only apply from 1 November 2014 and the specific requirements from 1 November 2015.

Regulation 932/2012 on eco-design requirements for tumble dryers is available here: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:278:0001:0010:EN:PDF>

ENERGY

Commission issues report on nuclear safety in the EU

On 4 October, the European Commission issued a Communication on the comprehensive risk and safety assessments ("stress tests") of nuclear power plants in the EU. The report suggests technical upgrade measures to improve safety, suggesting that most of the 132 nuclear reactors in operation in the EU should be upgraded by 2015. The Commission is expected to submit a proposal early next year to revise the Nuclear Safety Directive, in order to take the results of the stress tests into account.

The Communication is available here:
http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/safety/doc/com_2012_0571_en.pdf

Energy Efficiency Directive gains final approval

The Energy Efficiency Directive has received a final rubber-stamp from the Member States, signalling completion of the EU legislative process. The Directive already received overwhelming support from the European Parliament on 11 September (632 in favour, 19 abstentions, 25 against). The Directive establishes common measures for the promotion of energy efficiency in the EU, to help the EU achieve its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020. It requires each Member State to set an indicative national energy efficiency target. By 30 June 2014, the Commission will assess the progress achieved and pronounce on whether the EU is likely to reach its 2020 goal. Following entry into force of the Directive, the Member States will have 18 months to implement most of its provisions in national law.

The Directive is available here:
<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/12/pe00/pe00035.en12.pdf>

Commission adopts new proposal on biofuels

On 17 October, the European Commission published a proposal for a Directive amending the legislation on renewable energy. The proposal introduces a 5% limit on biofuels and bioliquids produced from food crops. It also introduces new reporting requirements for estimated emissions from carbon stock changes

caused by indirect land-use change (“ILUC”). The proposal does not take a position on the need for financial support for biofuels before 2020.

The Commission’s proposal is available at the following link:
http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/transport/fuel/docs/com_2012_595_en.pdf

PRODUCTS

New tyre labelling scheme enters into force

As from 1 November 2012, a label must accompany all new tyres sold in the EU. The label can either be affixed to the tyre itself, or provided to the dealer or end user on delivery. The label must contain information on their fuel efficiency and other parameters, including wet grip performance and rolling noise. The labelling requirement has been applied on a voluntary basis from 30 May and will now become mandatory. Certain categories of tyres remain exempt.

Regulation 1222/2009 on the labelling of tyres is available here: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32009R1222:EN:NOT>

OTHER

Commission announces 2013 work programme

On 23 October, the European Commission adopted its 2013 work programme. In the environmental field, the Commission noted that *“the EU needs a long-term framework for energy and climate policies so that investment and policy target competitiveness and tackle climate change”*. In light of this, it announced that it will be working on a new climate and energy package for the period up to 2030. The package will be comprised of both legislative and non-legislative measures, and has three stated objectives:

- To meet an 80-95% GHG emission reduction objective in 2050 compared to 1990;
- To foster long-term competitiveness, security of supply and sustainability; and
- To provide a long-term perspective for investments until 2030.

The work programme and its annexes can be found here:
http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/key-documents/index_en.htm

The Months Ahead

5 – 6 November

Essentials of the Oil & Gas Industry, London, UK

http://www.informaglobalevents.com/appdata/downloads/essentials-of-the-oil-and-gas-industry//Essentials_of_the_Oil_and_Gas_Industry2.pdf

5 – 6 November

WATER 2012, London, UK

<http://marketforce.eu.com/Conferences/water12/Programme/>

5 – 9 November

CLIMATE 2012 – The World’s CO₂-friendly Scientific Online Climate Conference

<http://www.climate2012.de/>

7 – 8 November

WWEM 2012 - Water, Wastewater and Environmental Monitoring Conference, Telford, England, UK

<http://www.environmental-expert.com/events/wwem-2012-water-wastewater->

and-environmental-monitoring-conference-11279

7 – 10 November

ECOMONDO 2012, Rimini, Italy

<http://www.environmental-expert.com/events/ecomondo-2012-12646>

12 – 14 November

Behavior, Energy & Climate Change Conference, Sacramento, California, USA

<http://www.becccconference.org/>

12 – 15 November

Fourth International Symposium on Energy from Biomass and Waste, Venice, Italy

<http://venicesymposium.it/>

13 – 14 November

International Concentrated Solar Thermal Power – CSP Today, Seville, Spain

<http://www.csptoday.com/csp/>

15 – 16 November

Strategic Risk in the Oil & Gas Industry, London, UK

<http://www.informaglobalevents.com/appdata/downloads/strategic-risk-oil-gas-industry//PK1171StrategicRiskOilandGas.pdf>

19 – 20 November

Energy Efficiency Developments in Europe, Maastricht, The Netherlands

http://www.eipa.eu/files/repository/product/20120926093621_info_1231801.pdf

20 – 23 November

POLEKO International Trade Fair of Environmental Protection, Poznan, Poland

<http://www.environmental-expert.com/events/poleko-international-trade-fair-of-environmental-protection-7824>

21 – 23 November

Energy markets and energy derivatives, London, UK

<http://www.informaglobalevents.com/event/energy-markets-and-energy-derivatives-training-course>

26 – 30 November

Air Pollution 2012, Newcastle, UK

<http://www.environmental-expert.com/events/air-pollution-2012-13295>

27 – 30 November

Pollutec 2012, Lyon, France

<http://www.environmental-expert.com/events/pollutec-2012-12458>

29 November

More Crop per Drop – Raising Water Use Efficiency 2012, London UK

<http://www.environmental-expert.com/events/more-crop-per-drop-raising-water-use-efficiency-2012-13375>

29 – 30 November

Rebalancing the World Energy Markets: The role of China, Russia and Central Asia, London, UK

<http://www.chathamhouse.org/World-energy-markets?campaign=confalerts>

29 -- 30 November

Annual Conference on REACH, Brussels, Belgium

<https://www.era.int/upload/dokumente/13905.pdf>

3 – 4 December

The Future of Air Transport 2012, London, UK

<http://marketforce.eu.com/>

3 – 5 December

Understanding the Energy Industry, London, UK

http://www.informaglobalevents.com/appdata/downloads/understanding-the-energy-industry//Understanding_the_Energy_Industry.pdf

9 – 13 December

Tracing Social Inequalities in Environmentally-Induced Migration, Bielefeld, Germany

[http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/\(en\)/tdrc/ag_comcad/conferences/envimig2012.html](http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/(en)/tdrc/ag_comcad/conferences/envimig2012.html)

7 – 9 January 2013

IPWE 2013: International Perspective on Water Resources and the Environment, Izmir, Turkey

<http://content.asce.org/conferences/ipwe2013/index.html>

29 – 31 January 2013

TerraTec 2013 – International Trade Fair for Environmental Technologies, Leipzig, Germany

<http://www.environmental-expert.com/events/terratec-2013-international-trade-fair-for-environmental-technologies-2723>

30 – 31 January 2013

REACH 2013, Paris, France

http://www.development-institute.com/fr/article/10610/reach_2013

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