

Incineration of waste

1998/0289(COD) - 06/07/2000 - Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading

The Amended proposal on the incineration of waste seeks to replace the three existing Directives 89/369, 89/429, 94/67 on the incineration of municipal waste and hazardous waste and to extend the scope of Community legislation on incineration. Out of the 16 amendments adopted by the European Parliament, the Commission has accepted six of them in full, two in part and one in principle. The amendments accepted by the Commission related in particular to: - the changing of the scope of the future of the Directive which proposes to exclude certain clean biomass to support the use of alternative sources of energy; - the addition of some examples of heat recovery from the text; - strengthening the requirement for the delivery and reception of waste; - the clarification that for some hazardous waste the retention time at 1,100°C is 2 seconds; - the addition of a new emission limit value for NO_x of 500 mg for new cement kilns co-incinerating waste. This figure is in line with the cost-benefit evaluation done for the Commission. On the other hand, the amendments not accepted by the Commission include those which: - seek to include waste management elements; - seek to introduce links with air and water quality standards; - seeks to provide for higher combustion temperatures for non-hazardous waste; - seeks to introduce an interpretation of hazardous waste which does not exist in waste legislation; - seeks to reduce the extra transition period provided for in annex II for certain cement kilns by one year.