

# Climate change: fluorinated greenhouse gases, hydrofluorocarbons HFCs, perfluorocarbons PFCs, sulphur hexafluoride

2003/0189A(COD) - 26/10/2005 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Avril **DOYLE** (EPP-ED, IE) and made a few amendments to the common position. Amendments include the following:

- a new recital states that the application and enforcement of the Regulation should spur technological innovation by encouraging continued development of alternative technologies and transition to already existing technologies that are more environmentally friendly;
- the Regulation does not prevent Member States from maintaining or introducing stricter protective measures;
- the definitions of "placing on the market" and "hermetically sealed system" are amended;
- a new term of "stationary application or equipment" is defined;
- the term "inspected" is changed to "subject to controls for leakage" throughout the text;
- in the case of fire protection systems installed before the date of entry into force of the Regulation, leak detection systems must be fitted within three years of entry into force of the Regulation, provided safety and insurance are not compromised;
- a new paragraph states that Member States must facilitate the cross-border transport of recovered fluorinated greenhouse gases for destruction or reclamation within the EU by allowing the competent authority of the Member State of destination to grant pre-consents to facilities that recover fluorinated greenhouse gases. Pre-consents may be limited in time and may be revoked by the competent authorities of Member States at any time.
- The Commission must establish minimum requirements and the conditions for mutual recognition in respect of training programmes and certification for both the companies and all relevant personnel involved in installing or maintaining the equipment concerned by this Regulation as well as for those involved in servicing or carrying out controls of the equipment for the activities provided for in the Regulation.
- A new clause states that each owner of stationary applications must obtain a registration number from the relevant competent authority for each system installed.
- The label for certain products must clearly indicate that the product or equipment contains fluorinated greenhouse gases and state their global warming potential, and this shall be clearly and indelibly stated on the product or equipment. The label shall be placed on the outside of the front or top of the product or equipment, in such a way as to be clearly visible, and not obscured.
- The Commission must ensure that, within one year of entry into force of the Regulation, a register is created with information about the market restrictions and proposed market restrictions in each Member State for products and equipment containing, or whose function relies upon, fluorinated greenhouse gases.

-Member States shall promote the placing on the market of equipment using alternatives to gases with a high global warming potential. This applies to the following types of products and equipment: refrigeration products and equipment; air conditioning products and equipment (other than those contained in motor vehicles); foams.

Finally, Parliament asked the Commission to develop new legislative proposals by the end of 2008 to deal with non-vehicle air conditioning systems and refrigeration systems in modes of transport.