Basic information

1994/0006(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Directive	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Water policy: quality of bathing water **Subject** 3.70.04 Water control and management, pollution of waterways, water pollution	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	JACKSON Caroline (PPE)	01/05/1999

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	EISMA Doeke (ELDR)	27/07/1994

Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets		
JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	26/07/1994
TRAN Transport and Tourism	CORNELISSEN Petrus A.M. (PPE)	02/12/1994

Council of the European Union

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
14/02/1994	Additional information		Summary
16/02/1994	Legislative proposal published	COM(1994)0036	Summary
21/07/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
21/11/1996	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary

21/11/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A4-0395/1996	
11/12/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
17/11/1997	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0585	Summary
26/07/1999	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
26/07/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary confirming Parliament's position	A5-0004/1999	
16/09/1999	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T5-0013/1999	
09/06/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
09/01/2004	Proposal withdrawn by Commission		Summary

Technical information

Procedure reference	1994/0006(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 175-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0395/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0003	21/11/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0672/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0084-0112	12/12/1996	Summary
Committee final report tabled for plenary, 1st reading /single reading		A5-0004/1999 OJ C 054 25.02.2000, p. 0010	26/07/1999	
Text adopted by Parliament confirming position adopted at 1st reading		T5-0013/1999 OJ C 054 25.02.2000, p. 0055-0076	16/09/1999	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1994)0036 OJ C 112 22.04.1994, p. 0003	16/02/1994	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1997)0585 OJ C 006 10.01.1998, p. 0009	17/11/1997	Summary

Reconsultation	SEC(1999)0581	28/04/1999	
Follow-up document	COM(2000)0860	21/12/2000	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0997/1994 OJ C 393 31.12.1994, p. 0005	14/09/1994	Summary
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0182/1994 OJ C 210 14.08.1995, p. 0053	28/09/1994	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Water policy: quality of bathing water

1994/0006(COD) - 16/09/1999

The European Parliament confirmed its first reading in the context of the codecision procedure the text voted upon on 12.12.1996 concerning this proposal for a directive.

Water policy: quality of bathing water

1994/0006(COD) - 14/09/1994 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

Water policy: quality of bathing water

1994/0006(COD) - 16/02/1994 - Legislative proposal

The Commission proposal aimed to simplify, consolidate and update the 1975 Bathing Water Directive without decreasing the level of protection for the health of bathers and the environment. In the light of experience and scientific progress, the proposed revision mainly involved: - consolidating and simplifying the existing texts, particularly with regard to the rules on assessing the water's conformity with the criteria; - amending certain physico-chemical and microbiological parameters by giving Member States the freedom to determine the strictest values and to set values for parameters not included in the directive; - improving information: the directive included the requirement to display notices indicating the quality of water in bathing areas and set out the corrective measures planned in the case of pollution. The Member States should prohibit bathing when imperative values were exceeded significantly. The new text required: - from the Member States: . measures on the quality of bathing water; . an annual statistical report, submitted to the Commission, on the quality of bathing water; . monitoring of all discharges that were likely to damage the quality of the water; . implementation of the actions needed to protect the quality of bathing water; - from the Commission: . maintenance and updating of the database on the quality of bathing water in the Community; . annual publication of a report on the quality of bathing water throughout the Community; . submission of proposals aimed at adapting the directive to technical progress; . technical assistance to the Member States with a view to ensuring the compatibility of the databases.

Water policy: quality of bathing water

1994/0006(COD) - 12/12/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Doeke EISMA (ELDR, NL) Parliament approved the proposal for a directive concerning the quality of bathing water. However it made amendments to the provisions and to the microbiological and physical and chemical parameters listed in the annexes and adopted a certain number of amendments dealing in particular with: - the scope of the directive: it should also cover the quality of water used for water sports; -

the definition of 'bathing season': namely, the period during which people normally bathe in the light of the geographical situation, this period not being shorter than 2 months; - the definition of water of 'good quality': assessment of the good quality of water should be on the basis of two previous bathing seasons and the current bathing season; - information to the bathing public which is clear, uniform and easily understandable: notices should include information on general safety aspects and on where assistance may be obtained if needed; - the account to be taken of pollution sources produced by pleasure boats and yachts; - information to the public of the pollution risks through the press, radio and television; - the establishment of an advisory committee to assist the Commission; - postponement of the deadline for the transposition of the directive to 31 December 1997.

Water policy: quality of bathing water

1994/0006(COD) - 21/12/2000 - Follow-up document

The objective of this Communication is to launch an open consultation exercise with all interested parties and stakeholders concerning a new Bathing Water Directive - a new Directive that will ensure at least the same environment and health protection as the current Directive but at the same time will take into account new approaches and new science and technologies. The objective of the consultation is to learn how we can improve our bathing water legislation and its implementation. The consultation exercise will culminate in a Bathing Water Conference during Green Week (24-28 April 2001), to which all individuals and institutions who have responded to this Communication will be invited. All comments and suggestions made during the consultation exercise (either in writing or during the Conference) will be taken into account by the Commission and decision under the co-decision procedure. The Commission does not attempt to provide all of the details of the future Directive but merely to outline its Skeleton. This Communication therefore highlights the strengths and difficulties of bathing water quality managment and presents possible approaches for the new Directive, building upon experience in this area.

Water policy: quality of bathing water

1994/0006(COD) - 28/09/1994 - Committee of the Regions: opinion

Water policy: quality of bathing water

1994/0006(COD) - 17/11/1997 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission's amended proposal incorporates in full or in part 24 amendments adopted by the European Parliament on first reading. The main amendments concern: - the definition of good quality bathing water; - the definition of 'bathing seasons': the period during which people normally bathe in the light of the geographical situation, local custom and weather conditions; - the definition of 'competent authority': the authority indicated by the Member State empowered to enforce all or some of the obligations arising from this directive; - the need for close coordination between this directive and a future directive setting out a framework for future policy with regard to water; - information for the public concerning the quality of bathing water: it must be uniform and easily understandable, include information on general safety aspects and indicate where assistance may be obtained if needed; - informing the Commission of action taken to avoid pollution and restore the quality of water affected; - obligation for Member States to prohibit bathing and inform the public where pollution constitutes a threat to public health; - deadline for implementation set at 31/12/1997. The Commission does not however adopt the amendments: - seeking an orientation towards tourism and/or tourist programmes; - seeking to extend the definition of bathing water to recreational water; - seeking to insert a pesticide and nitrates parameter; - introducing a type 1 advisory committee; - introducing a very stringent definition of bathing zones and deleting a transition period for new bathing zones; - calling for the establishment by each Member State of public information database and presentation of a yearly financial report of the actions taken by the Member States regarding the implementation of the directive.