

Basic information	
1998/0272(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Directive	Procedure completed
Consumers and environment: availability of information on fuel economy of new passengers cars	
Subject 3.70.02 Atmospheric pollution, motor vehicle pollution 4.60.02 Consumer information, advertising, labelling	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy	STERCKX Dirk (ELDR)	27/07/1999
	Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	KESTELIJN-SIERENS Marie-Paule (Mimi) (ELDR)	13/10/1998
Council of the European Union	Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	Council configuration	Meetings	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2162	1999-02-22
	Environment	2121	1998-10-06
	Environment	2153	1998-12-20

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
03/09/1998	Legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0489	Summary

06/10/1998	Debate in Council		
23/10/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
08/12/1998	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
08/12/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A4-0489/1998	
16/12/1998	Debate in Parliament		
11/02/1999	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0066 	Summary
23/02/1999	Council position published	05617/2/1999	Summary
05/05/1999	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
23/07/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
19/10/1999	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
19/10/1999	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A5-0040/1999	
03/11/1999	Debate in Parliament		
04/11/1999	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T5-0090/1999	Summary
13/12/1999	Final act signed		
13/12/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
18/01/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1998/0272(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 Rules of Procedure EP 52-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/4/10795

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0489/1998 OJ C 098 09.04.1999, p. 0006	08/12/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0755/1998 OJ C 098 09.04.1999, p. 0198-0260	17/12/1998	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A5-0040/1999 OJ C 158 07.06.2000, p. 0009	19/10/1999	

Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading	T5-0090/1999 OJ C 158 07.06.2000, p. 0011-0033	04/11/1999	Summary
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Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	05617/2/1999 OJ C 123 04.05.1999, p. 0001	23/02/1999	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1998)0489  OJ C 305 03.10.1998, p. 0002	03/09/1998	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1999)0066  OJ C 083 25.03.1999, p. 0001	11/02/1999	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1999)0280 	24/02/1999	Summary
Reconsultation	SEC(1999)0581 	28/04/1999	
Follow-up document	COM(2000)0615 	04/10/2000	Summary
Follow-up document	SWD(2025)0155	04/06/2025	
Follow-up document	SWD(2025)0156	04/06/2025	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1448/1998 OJ C 040 15.02.1999, p. 0045	02/12/1998	
EU	Implementing legislative act	32003L0073 OJ L 186 25.07.2003, p. 0034-0035	24/07/2003	

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act		

Consumers and environment: availability of information on fuel economy of new passengers cars

1998/0272(COD) - 17/12/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report of Ms. Marie-Paule KESTILIJN-SIERENS (ELDR, B) on a proposal for a Directive relating to the availability of consumer information on fuel economy in respect of the marketing of new passenger cars, the Parliament adopted a series of amendments aimed at : - guaranteeing that specific information on CO2 emissions would be made available; - developing a fuel economy label for all new passenger cars, vehicles registered for the day, as well as new cars that may not be resold within one year. This should be displayed at the point of sale; - dispensing with the obligation to provide information concerning the cost of fuel consumption (as this could encourage the use of diesel); - simplifying the data concerning fuel consumption by making a distinction between journeys in and outside urban areas; - reminding the consumer that certain additional equipment, such as air conditioning and pre-heating systems, can give rise to substantially higher fuel consumption.

Consumers and environment: availability of information on fuel economy of new passengers cars

1998/0272(COD) - 11/02/1999 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission's amended proposal retains, partially or in total, 15 out of the 29 amendments approved by the European Parliament in its first reading. These amendments aim at : - mentioning that one of the objectives of the scheme is to provide information on CO2 emissions, as well as on fuel consumption; - extending the definition of the point of sale; - giving the role to the Commission, with the assistance of the Committee, to look into how to classify categories of cars (e.g. small, medium, large) and how a list of the top 10 most fuel-efficient cars in each category should be drawn up; - clarifying that the Commission, with the help of the Committee, should seek to further harmonise the scheme, in the future, if such a harmonisation is felt to be appropriate; - adding an explanation of the effects of additional options, such as air conditioning, on fuel consumption on the label and the in guide; - ensuring that there is a reference to the Internet guide in the paper guide; - including both the urban and extra-urban drive cycles in the scope of the label, guide and poster; - clarifying that the electronic guide will be kept up-to-date with the changes in the new car market.

Consumers and environment: availability of information on fuel economy of new passengers cars

1998/0272(COD) - 24/02/1999 - Commission communication on Council's position

The Commission supports the Council's common position which is very much in line with the position of the Commission and that of the European Parliament. In addition, the common position in some ways strengthens the obligations created by the original proposal. Concerning the two most controversial issues, that of fuel costs and of creating categories, the common position reflects the position taken by the Parliament. On the question of fuel cost, the Council's position reflects the Parliament's concern that fuel costs may promote diesel penetration and therefore fuel costs no longer appear; the Commission however continues to feel that such figures would provide an incentive for consumers to shift to fuel efficient cars. On the question of categories, the common position reflects Parliament's desire to see the inclusion of categories of cars, into the Directive, during any revision.

Consumers and environment: availability of information on fuel economy of new passengers cars

1998/0272(COD) - 04/10/2000 - Follow-up document

The Community's strategy to reduce CO2 emissions from passenger cars and improve fuel economy was endorsed by the Council in 1996. It aims at achieving an average CO2 emission figure for new passenger cars of 120g CO2/km by 2005, and 2010 at the latest. It is based on three main pillars: - commitments of the automobile industry on fuel economy improvements, aiming at achieving an average CO2 emission figure for new passenger cars of 140g CO2/km by 2008/9; - fuel-economy labelling of cars which aims at ensuring that information relating to the fuel economy and CO2 emissions of new passenger cars offered for sale or lease in the Community is made available to consumers in order to enable consumers to make an informed choice; - the promotion of car fuel efficiency by fiscal measures. In this respect, the Environment Council in October 1999 reiterated the need to study the possibility of establishing a reference framework for fiscal incentives. These pillars are supplemented by research activities. The Council invited the Commission to report about the effectiveness of the strategy regularly. In order to establish a detailed and fully transparent monitoring, the Commission intends to submit reports on an annual basis, meeting at the same time related reporting requests expressed by the Council. The European Parliament should be informed as well. The main findings for the reporting period 1995 to 1999 are: - all associations reduced the average specific CO2 emissions of their cars sold on the EU market; - the average CO2 emissions of new passenger cars decreased as well in all Member States; - all associations

increased the diesel share of their fleets within the reporting period. In general, the implementation of the Community's strategy to reduce CO2 emissions from passenger cars and improve fuel economy shows significant progress. Two of the three main pillars (commitments of the car industry and fuel-economy labelling of cars) are in place, intensive work on the third (fiscal measures) is underway. The first set of "Joint Reports" shows that the European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA) and the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association (JAMA) are on the way to match the interim targets. The Korea Automobile Manufacturers Association (KAMA) has to increase its efforts significantly. In order to meet the final target of 140g CO2/km, all three associations have to increase their efforts, which is also foreseen in the commitments. To achieve the Community strategy target of 120g CO2/km, it is important that the Community continues to work in developing and implementing the two pillars for consumer information and fiscality.

Consumers and environment: availability of information on fuel economy of new passengers cars

1998/0272(COD) - 23/02/1999 - Council position

The Council in reaching its common position adopted in full or in part 14 amendments put forward by the European Parliament. Of these, a cluster of amendments regarding the deletion of the requirement to indicate average fuel costs, as well as amendments regarding the requirement to indicate CO2 emissions data alongside fuel economy data in promotional literature, had been rejected by the Commission. The main innovations introduced by the Council concern: - when reviewing the Directive, an enlargement of its scope to used cars should be considered; - clarifications of certain definitions to ensure full consistency with relevant existing Community legislation and to ease implementation; - the establishment of an Internet guide at Community level, on which the Commission has undertaken to work by the end of 1999, and to keep updated thereafter; - the text of Annex II relating to information to be given in the guide was detailed and clarified to ease implementation; a requirement to refer to the Community's target for average CO2 emissions was added; - Member States shall, as appropriate, provide for data on fuel economy and CO2 emissions to be indicated also in promotional material other than promotional literature; - explicit mention of measures to be taken according to the committee procedure, i.e. on the format of the label, the classification of car models in the guide, and the application to other media of the principles established for national literature. The Council proposes the establishment of a specific management committee (IIIa).

Consumers and environment: availability of information on fuel economy of new passengers cars

1998/0272(COD) - 13/12/1999 - Final act

OBJECTIVE : To provide potential purchasers of new cars with the relevant information on fuel consumption and CO2 emissions in an effort to guide their choice to more fuel-efficient models. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Directive 1999/94/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to the availability of consumer information on fuel economy and CO2 emissions in respect of the marketing of new passenger cars. SUBSTANCE : This measure forms part of the Community's strategy to reduce greenhouse gases in accordance with its international obligations. It provides that: - a label on fuel economy and CO2 emissions must be displayed near each new passenger car model at the point of sale; - a free guide on fuel economy must be available to consumers both at the point of sale and also from a designated body within each Member State; - for each make of car, a poster in a prescribed form shall be exhibited with a list of the official fuel consumption data and the official specific CO2 emissions data of all new passenger car models at the point of sale; - All promotional literature must contain the official fuel consumption and the official specific CO2 emission data of the passenger car models to which it refers; other promotional material will contain this information on the specific car model to which it refers. Information on labels, etc on fuel consumption and CO2 emissions, which does not conform to the requirements of the Directive, is prohibited. - Information on the ten most economic cars will also be provided, to be ranked in order of increasing specific CO2 emissions for each fuel type; - On the first review of the Directive, the Commission will consider enlarging the scope to used cars; ENTRY INTO FORCE: 18/01/2001.

Consumers and environment: availability of information on fuel economy of new passengers cars

1998/0272(COD) - 03/09/1998 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: The proposed directive aims to provide potential purchasers of new cars with the relevant information on fuel consumption in an effort to guide their choice to more fuel efficient models. SUBSTANCE: The Commission hopes to influence the market to create a demand for cars which are more economical on fuel and thus to oblige manufacturers to adapt to this demand. The proposed directive aims to make information available to purchasers of new cars in four ways: (1) a label indicating the fuel consumption and average CO2 emissions of the vehicle; (2) dissemination of a compact guide listing the fuel consumption characteristics of all new vehicles on the market; (3) an information poster to be displayed in showrooms; (4) data on fuel consumption to be included in all promotional material produced and used by manufacturers and dealers to market new vehicles. This proposal forms part of the general Community strategy to reduce CO2 emissions and should be considered as a means of achieving the Kyoto objectives for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Consumers and environment: availability of information on fuel economy of new passengers cars

1998/0272(COD) - 06/05/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament confirming position adopted at 1st reading

Following the entry into force of the Treaty of Amsterdam on 01/05/99, the European Parliament confirmed as its first reading under codecision procedure its vote of 17/12/98 on the proposal for a European Parliament and Council directive relating to the availability of consumer information on fuel economy in respect of the marketing of new passenger cars.

Consumers and environment: availability of information on fuel economy of new passengers cars

1998/0272(COD) - 04/11/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

In adopting the recommendation for the second reading drafted by Mr. Dirk STERCKX (ELDR, B), the European Parliament approved the Council's common position. The Council, in fact, incorporated within the common position most of the important European Parliament amendments adopted at first reading.