

Basic information	
<p><b>2005/2584(RSP)</b></p> <p>RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects</p> <p>Resolution on the proposal by the Council amending the Annex to Directive 2002/95/EC on the restriction of the use of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment</p> <p><b>Subject</b></p> <p>3.40.06 Electronics, electrotechnical industries, ICT, robotics            3.70.13 Dangerous substances, toxic and radioactive wastes (storage, transport)            4.60.04.02 Consumer security</p>	Procedure completed

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
06/07/2005	Decision by Parliament	T6-0274/2005	Summary
06/07/2005	Results of vote in Parliament		
06/07/2005	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2005/2584(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Resolution on implementing act or powers
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 115-p2-3
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B6-0392/2005	30/06/2005	
Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects		T6-0274/2005 OJ C 157 06.07.2006, p. 0094-0263 E	06/07/2005	Summary

**Resolution on the proposal by the Council amending the Annex to Directive 2002/95/EC on the restriction of the use of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment**

The "comitology" procedure is throwing up another conflict between MEPs and the European Commission. This time the dispute is over whether to scrap restrictions imposed two years ago on the use of decaBDE, a brominated flame-retardant used chiefly to ensure that electric and electronic devices, such as televisions and computers, do not burst into flames. The Commission wants to lift the restrictions but MEPs adopted a resolution opposing this plan.

Parliament is of the opinion that the Commission has clearly exceeded its implementing powers and they are calling on the Council to oppose the proposal. They dispute the scientific basis of the Commission's proposal and believe the restrictions should stay in place. A scientific advisory committee of the Commission itself also takes this view. Brominated flame-retardants can have toxic effects on health and the environment. Some of them, penta- and octaBDE, were in fact completely banned two years ago. Parliament fought up to the conciliation stage to win a ban on octaBDE and restrictions on decaBDE, pending - for the latter - more precise risk assessments. The assessments carried out do not convince MEPs and they note that less toxic substitute products exist.