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August Highlights

European Parliament draft report and amendments on EU Mercury Regulation

Following the signature of the Minamata Convention, a new legislation on mercury storage applicable similarly in all 28 European Member States should be voted on at EU-level. The Commission issued a legislative proposal that is discussed now in the European Parliament and the Council. In the European Parliament, the MEPs of the Environment Committee tabled amendments to modify the lead MEP draft report. In particular regarding storage and disposal of mercury, some MEPs request that mercury waste should undergo solidification prior to any disposal. Others suggest mercury waste may be temporarily stored in liquid form, for up to five years and others would extend it for up to ten years. More amendments are tabled also on how mercury waste may be stored and on the content of certificates the industry must provide to do so. These amendments modify the European Commission proposal and the commitment to the Minamata Convention. In the European Parliament the discussion on the

amendments is expected after the summer recess in September and the vote in the ENVI Committee on 13 October 2016.

Diesel particles in the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directives

Following the recommendation of the IARC (the International Agency for Research on Cancer), the European Commission should propose Occupational Exposure Limit Values (OELs) for recognised human carcinogens that are in Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive (CMD). The E.C. should also add to the Directive Process Generated Substances (PGSs) for the same reason. This will concern particles due to emissions from diesel engines. For now, there is no limit defined until robust scientific data is available to also allow the establishment of an OEL for diesel particles. The proposal from the European Commission is now discussed in both the European Parliament and in the Council. The final vote is expected in 2017.

Climate & Environment

EuSalt Circular Economy Expert Group – test phase done!



Three EuSalt member companies have tested a questionnaire to measure the Circular

Economy model as laid down by the European Commission against the salt industry processes. EuSalt believes it can provide guidance and tools to the salt industry for how to move towards excellence in the context of the Commission action plan. Three more companies will now reply to the questionnaire with the help of Kienbaum consultants. This will result in a report with conclusions consolidating this first round of replies before extending the exercise to other members. The

final report should be available before the end of the year. EuSalt will devote one session to the Circular Economy political agenda at the next General Assembly in Brussels from 26 to 28 June 2017.

European Parliament discussion on EU-ETS amendments

Amendments to the European Parliament report have been published at the end of July. Many simply ask the European Commission to withdraw its proposal as there is a feeling it is not reaching the European climate goals.

Regarding indirect costs from GHG emissions, amendments suggest deleting measures to address these costs, or creating an EU-level compensating arrangement proportionate to

GHG emission costs passed through electricity prices, or auctioning 3% of allowances pooled at EU level to compensate sectors or subsectors at risk of carbon leakage.

Regarding carbon leakage, parties are divided between full auctioning and flexibility to allow sectors to adapt smoothly and encourage innovation. Different calculations based on the value of trade intensity multiplied by the emission intensity of sectors and sub-sectors are proposed. Some amendments also propose to delete indirect costs compensation articles and others also favour a centralized compensation system. There is no amendment proposing technology-based assessment of the risk of Carbon leakage rather than sector-based approach as is currently applicable.

More news

EU Policy News

Slovak Presidency from 1st July to 31st December 2016



[Slovakia](#) is holding the 6-month Presidency of the EU Council until December.

With the support of Euromines, they are organising a conference in Bratislava on Sustainability of Materials Resources and Environment. It aims to provide a place to share experience and perspectives internationally in mineral resources in

EU countries, in the importance of raw materials in national economy, in mining without conflict, and in Best Practice sharing on mining's contribution to European economic growth and community development. The conference will also touch upon topics related to environmental impact, such as cases on rehabilitation and reclamation and how to reach a win-win situation, such as enhancement of ecosystems and post-rehabilitation processes, and on secondary raw materials and recycling.

Publications

- A [Quick Guide](#) to an Attractive Investments Framework for Mines and Quarrying

Events

SAVE THE DATE!! EuSalt General Assembly from 26 to 28 June 2017

We are very happy to announce that the next General Assembly will take place in Brussels on 26 to 28 June 2017.

Sessions on optimum nutrition, on safety in the workplace, on the Circular Economy in the salt sector and on corporate social responsibility are organised with speakers from other sectors as well as with European policy-makers.

They will take place in different places and encourage interactions between all participants. Registrations should open soon. Stay tuned!



SAVE THE DATE The next **World Salt Symposium** will take place on **19th-21st June 2018** in park City (U.S.A.). More information to come.

Upcoming Events	
1st Sep.	ECHA Biocides Stakeholder Day
12 Sep.	Safety Expert group meeting (conference call)
13 Sep.	NEEIP meeting (Brussels, Belgium)
14-16 Sep.	EuroChlor General Assembly (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

15-16 Sep.	EFLA Congress (Krakow, Poland)
20-21 Sep.	Slovak Presidency conference 'Prevention of chronic non-communicable diseases and healthy lifestyle' (Bratislava, Slovakia)
21-22 Sep.	Meetings of the Competent Authorities on Biocidal Products

	(CA) and the Standing Committee on Biocidal Products (SCBP) (Brussels, Belgium)
25-28 Sep.	Solution Mining Research Institute Technical Conference (Salzburg, Austria)
26 Sep.	Terra Salina Scientific Committee meeting, (Arc-et-Sénans, France)
28 Sep.	IMA 2016 Conference: Fostering value chain symbiosis in the circular economy era (Brussels, Belgium)
5-7 Oct.	XXI International “Quo Vadis” Symposium (Beskid Żywiecki, Poland)
11 Oct.	5 th Biocidal Products Symposium (Brussels, Belgium)
13-14 Oct.	Sub-Regional Consultative Workshop for Countries in the UNICEF CEE/CIS Region on Sustainable Prevention of Iodine Deficiency and Achievement of Optimal Iodine Nutrition (Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina)
18-19 Oct.	EuSalt Analytical Task Force meeting (Untereibzibach, Germany)
24-30 Oct.	European Week for Safety and Health at Work (across Europe)

25 Oct.	EuSalt Circular Economy Expert Group meeting
3 Nov.	EuSalt Board meeting (Brussels, Belgium)
16 Nov.	UEPG Sustainable Development Awards ceremony (Brussels, Belgium)
17 Nov.	The Concrete Dialogues 2016 (Brussels, Belgium)
21-22 Nov.	Conference on Sustainability of Mineral Resources and the Environment (Bratislava, Slovakia)
22-25 Nov.	3rd International Biocides congress (Antalya, Turkey)
1 Dec.	European Innovation Partnership Raw Materials conference (Brussels, Belgium)
1-3 Mar. 2017	Salt Institute General Assembly (Naples FL, USA)
21-23 Mar. 2017	Roskill Salt Conference and Exhibition (Cologne, Germany)
15-17 Nov. 2017	World Iodine Association General Assembly (Pisa, Italy)
19-21 Jun. 2018	World Salt Symposium (Park City, USA)

CONTACT

EuSalt aisbl - Square de Meeûs 38/40- 1000 Brussels

T. +32 (0)2 401 61 33 – F. +32 (0)2 401 61 35

info@eusalt.com

www.eusalt.com – www.de-icing.eu