

EU Regulatory Position on Airborne Particles

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2002: 6th Environmental Action Programme

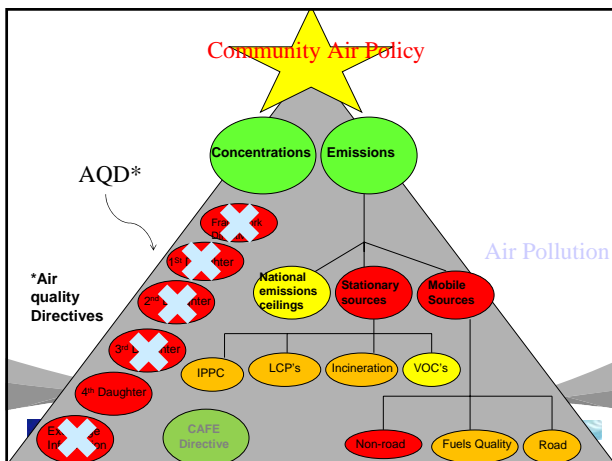
'achieving levels of air quality that do not give rise to significant negative impacts on and risks to human health and the environment';
(Art 7.1. of 6th EAP)

Outline

- Historical perspective & CAFE process
- Thematic Strategy and Directive 2008/50/EC
 - Objectives, expectations
 - Legal provisions
- Implementation and enforcement
- Supporting activities
- Challenges and future outlook

Historical Perspective

- Serious impacts of air pollution first recognised in EC environment programmes of the 1970s and 1980s
- Patchwork of measures
 - Car emission controls in 1970s
 - Automotive fuel quality (1980s)
 - Air Quality standards for SO₂, NO₂ and suspended particles (1980s)
 - First legislation on permitting industrial installations (1980s)
 - EC became party to the UN ECE Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution in 1981



Particles in EU regulation in past and present

- Early recognition, but important knowledge gaps
 - Unfortunate policy choices (ex. diesel, EURO4 PM ambition)
- Emission regulation
 - sectoral (no national ceiling), Some unregulated (shipping)
 - addresses TSP (also in BREF's)
- Secondary PM
 - not explicitly regulated or used in setting objectives
- Standards based on WHO guidelines
 - Limit values, only PM10, total mass in 1999
- Wide divergence is AQD implementation (strong subsidiarity)
 - Local vs. regional/national, how to address secondary...
 - Coherence of policies, transitional arrangements
- Abatement action & Enforcement
 - Late

*BREF – Best Available Technology Reference Document

