

## Review of the Best Available Techniques Reference Document (BREF) for Waste Incineration and Interactions with other BREFs

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Industrial and agro-industrial production processes account for a considerable share of the overall pollution in the EU. Emissions (and resource consumption) from these processes are mainly regulated under the Industrial Emissions Directive 2010/75/EU (IED) whose aim is to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce pollution through an integrated approach. Approximately 50,000 installations are covered by the IED.

Operators of these installations are required to obtain an integrated permit from the competent authorities. Permit conditions, including emission limit values (ELVs), must be based on the Best Available Techniques (BAT).

To assist the permitting authorities and companies to determine BAT, the European Commission organises an exchange of information between EU Member States, the industries concerned, non-governmental organisations promoting environmental protection and the Commission. This work is steered by the European Commission's in-house science service, the Joint Research Centre's European IPPC Bureau (EIPPCB) in Seville (Spain) and results in the adoption and publication of the BAT conclusions and BAT reference documents (BREFs). The IED stipulates that the BAT conclusions shall be the reference for setting permit conditions.

An initial BREF series comprising 33 documents was developed under the predecessor of the IED, the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) Directive (2008/1/EC). A process to review and update all of these documents taking into account both technical developments in the industries concerned and the new requirements of the IED is currently underway and is expected to take until 2020 to complete.

The name commonly given to the process for elaborating or reviewing BREFs is the *Sevilla process*. For each document, the process consists of nominated experts representing the main stakeholders concerned (i.e. Member States, industry, environmental NGOs and services of the Commission) forming a Technical Working Group (TWG), exchanging techno-economic information and reaching a consensus based on their consideration of sound technical and economic data.

The review of the BREF on Waste Incineration (WI) started on 12 May 2014 with the reactivation of the TWG. TWG members are currently being asked for their initial views on what should be included in the review. The closing date for the TWG to

submit their initial views is 12<sup>th</sup> September 2014. Afterwards, the EIPPCB will organise a kick-off meeting for the TWG to decide on the scope of the review, the necessary data and information that should support the review and a timeline for the review process. A data collection exercise leading to a revised draft of the WI BREF will follow. The TWG will then meet again to consider and agree the final document, in particular to discuss and agree on the BAT conclusions. The overall timescale of the review is expected to take three years.