

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Fisheries

2004/0231(COD)

26.4.2005

OPINION

of the Committee on Fisheries

for the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and amending Council Directives 91/689/EEC and 96/61/EC (COM(2004)0634 – C6-0130/2004 – 2004/0231(COD))

Draftsman: Carl Schlyter

PA_Leg

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

This proposal by the Commission would significantly enhance the public's access to environmental information by creating an EU-wide register of pollutants released into the environment. This is to be accomplished by replacing the current European Pollutant Emission Register by a new European Pollution Release and Transfer Register (EPRTTR), thus fulfilling the Community's obligation to put into effect a UN Economic Commission for Europe convention. The proposal is thus to be welcomed.

It is important to note that the register would only facilitate and improve the access the public would have to information about pollution in the EU; it does not in any way impose further restrictions on emissions into the air, water or land. The register should, therefore, strive to be as inclusive as possible, by including the greatest percentage of pollutant emissions that is practicable, rather than concentrating on only a few of the larger sources. The register would then be a very valuable tool for informing the public and leading to improved decision-making.

There are many effects of pollution on fisheries, ranging from its impacts on ecosystems, fish health and reproduction to consequences for human health, due to consumption of contaminated seafood. The recent discussions over dioxin in certain fish provide a good example of the latter.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Fisheries calls on the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, as the committee responsible, to approve the text proposed by Commission.

PROCEDURE

Title	Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and amending Council Directives 91/689/EEC and 96/61/EC
References	COM(2004)0634 – C6-0130/2004 – 2004/0231(CNS)
Committee responsible	ENVI
Committee asked for its opinion Date announced in plenary	PECH 25.11.2004
Enhanced cooperation	
Draftsman Date appointed	Carl Schlyter 25.11.2004
Discussed in committee	2.2.2005 30.3.2005
Date amendments adopted	26.4.2005
Result of final vote	for: unanimously against: abstentions:
Members present for the final vote	Elspeth Attwooll, Niels Busk, David Casa, Zdzisław Kazimierz Chmielewski, Carmen Fraga Estévez, Ioannis Gklavakis, Alfred Gomolka, Heinz Kindermann, Henrik Dam Kristensen, Albert Jan Maat, Rosa Miguélez Ramos, Philippe Morillon, Neil Parish, Dirk Sterckx, Catherine Stihler
Substitutes present for the final vote	James Nicholson, Carl Schlyter
Substitutes under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote	Alejandro Cercas