

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

2007/0214(COD)

21.5.2008

OPINION

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

for the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council
on type-approval of hydrogen powered motor vehicles and amending Directive
2007/46/EC
(COM(2007)0593 – C6-0342/2007 – 2007/0214(COD))

Draftsman: Alojz Peterle

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AMENDMENTS

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) In the transport sector, an increased share of more environmentally friendly vehicles should be aimed at and additional efforts should be undertaken in order to place more of those vehicles on the market. The introduction of vehicles with alternative fuels can produce a significant improvement in the urban air quality.

Amendment

(4) In the transport sector, an increased share of more environmentally friendly vehicles should be aimed at and additional efforts should be undertaken in order to place more of those vehicles on the market. The introduction of vehicles with alternative fuels can produce a significant improvement in the urban air quality ***and consequently also in the state of public health.***

Justification

It is important to highlight as well the improvement in public health that can be achieved by the introduction of vehicles with alternative fuels.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6a) The CARS21 (Competitive Automotive Regulatory System for the 21st century) Final Report¹ stated that "efforts with a view to increasing international harmonisation of motor vehicle regulations should be maintained where appropriate, with a view to involving the key vehicle markets and to extending harmonisation to areas not yet covered, notably in the framework of both

the 1958 and the 1998 Agreements of the UNECE". In line with this recommendation, the Commission should continue to support the development of internationally harmonised requirements for motor vehicles under the auspices of the UNECE. In particular, if a Global Technical Regulation (GTR) on hydrogen and fuel cell vehicles is adopted, the Commission should consider the possibility of adapting the requirements of this Regulation to those of the GTR.

¹

<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/automotive/pagesbackground/competitiveness/cars21finalreport.pdf>

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation Recital 6 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6b) Hydrogen mixtures could be used as a transition fuel to facilitate the introduction of hydrogen-powered vehicles in countries where there is a good natural gas infrastructure. The Commission should therefore develop requirements for the use of mixtures of hydrogen and natural gas/biomethane, especially the mixing ratio of hydrogen and gas, taking into account the technical feasibility and the environmental benefits.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation Recital 7 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7a) In future, hydrogen-powered vehicles should be vehicles propelled by pure hydrogen produced as far as possible from renewable energies. Use of mixtures

of hydrogen and natural gas/biomethane to propel vehicles must be no more than a transitional technology.

Justification

Natural gas, when burned, emits pollutants. Accordingly, natural gas use is no more than a transitional technology.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 7 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7b) Hydrogen-powered vehicles can succeed on the market only if there is an adequate, standardised filling-station infrastructure in Europe. The Commission should examine suitable measures for supporting a standardised filling system for a Europe-wide filling-station network for hydrogen-powered vehicles.

Justification

Natural-gas filling stations are problematic in that filling systems function differently in the various Member States. From the outset, accordingly, when hydrogen filling stations are being set up, it should be ensured that the same filling system is used for hydrogen-powered vehicles throughout Europe.

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 - point 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1) "hydrogen powered vehicle" means any motor vehicle that uses ***pure*** hydrogen ***or a mixture of hydrogen and natural gas*** as fuel to propel the vehicle;

(1) "hydrogen powered vehicle" means any motor vehicle that uses hydrogen as fuel to propel the vehicle;

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation Article 8 - paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4. The use of the mixture of gaseous hydrogen and natural gas as fuel is allowed. **deleted**

Justification

This change is necessary as a consequence of the amendment to the definition of hydrogen powered vehicle in Article 3.

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation Article 9 - paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. The use of the mixture of gaseous hydrogen and natural gas as fuel is allowed. **deleted**

Justification

This change is necessary as a consequence of the amendment to the definition of hydrogen powered vehicle in Article 3.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation Article 12 - paragraph 2 - point b - indent -1 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- use of pure hydrogen or a mixture of hydrogen and natural gas/biomethane;

PROCEDURE

Title	Type-approval of hydrogen powered motor vehicles
References	COM(2007)0593 – C6-0342/2007 – 2007/0214(COD)
Committee responsible	IMCO
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	ENVI 25.10.2007
Drafts(wo)man Date appointed	Alojz Peterle 20.12.2007
Discussed in committee	3.4.2008
Date adopted	6.5.2008
Result of final vote	+ : 51 - : 0 0 : 0
Members present for the final vote	Georgs Andrejevs, Margrete Auken, Pilar Ayuso, Irena Belohorská, Johannes Blokland, John Bowis, Frieda Brepoels, Hiltrud Breyer, Dorette Corbey, Magor Imre Csibi, Avril Doyle, Mojca Drčar Murko, Jill Evans, Anne Ferreira, Matthias Groote, Françoise Grossetête, Satu Hassi, Jens Holm, Caroline Jackson, Christa Kläß, Eija-Riitta Korhola, Urszula Krupa, Aldis Kušķis, Marie-Noëlle Lienemann, Jules Maaten, Linda McAvan, Riitta Myller, Péter Olajos, Miroslav Ouzký, Vladko Todorov Panayotov, Vittorio Prodi, Frédérique Ries, Carl Schlyter, Horst Schnellhardt, Richard Seeber, Bogusław Sonik, María Sornosa Martínez, Antonios Trakatellis, Thomas Ulmer, Anja Weisgerber, Åsa Westlund, Glenis Willmott
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Inés Ayala Sender, Christofer Fjellner, Anne Laperrouze, Johannes Lebech, Kartika Tamara Liotard, Alojz Peterle, Bart Staes, Lambert van Nistelrooij
Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote	Armando França