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Plenary sitting

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 88(2), (3) and (4)(c) of the Rules of Procedure

by Holger Krahmer

on the draft Commission Regulation (EU) No.../... implementing Directive 2009/125/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to ecodesign requirements for vacuum cleaners

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

European Parliament resolution on the draft Commission Regulation implementing Directive 2009/125/EC with regard to ecodesign requirements for vacuum cleaners

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Directive 2009/125/EC of 21 October 2009 establishing a framework for the setting of ecodesign requirements for energy-related products¹, and in particular to recitals 5, 6 and 10, Article 1(2), Article 15(4) and (5), as well as Annex II(1) thereof (the basic act),
 - having regard to the draft Commission Regulation implementing Directive 2009/125/EC with regard to ecodesign requirements for vacuum cleaners, and in particular to Annex I and Annex II thereof,
 - having regard to Article 5a(3)(b) of Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission²,
 - having regard to Rule 88(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the main aim of the basic act, as stated in recital 6 and Article 1(2) thereof, is to increase the energy efficiency of energy-related products, notably through a more efficient end use of electricity;
- B. whereas recital 5, Article 15(5)(a) and Annex II(1) of the basic act clarify that ecodesign aims at optimising the environmental performance of products, while maintaining their functional qualities, and provide that implementing measures shall not have a significant negative impact on the functionality of the product, from the perspective of the user, i.e. shall not lead to any significant loss of performance or usefulness for consumers;
- C. whereas recital 10 and Article 15(5)(b) of the basic act stress that the impact of ecodesign on health requires proper consideration and prescribe that implementing measures shall not adversely affect health and safety;
- D. whereas recital 10, Article 15(4)(b) and Article 15(5)(d) of the basic act state that economic considerations have to be taken into account and that implementing measures shall not have a significant negative impact on industry competitiveness, including in relation to markets outside the European Union;
- E. whereas the draft Commission regulation implementing Directive 2009/125/EC with regard to ecodesign requirements for vacuum cleaners introduces rules which will reduce the average energy efficiency and performance of vacuum cleaners in Europe and will not lead to energy savings;
- F. whereas the formulae for the calculation of the annual energy consumption of carpet and

¹ OJ L 285, 31.10.2009, p. 10.

² OJ L 184, 17.7.1999, p. 23.

hard floor vacuum cleaners, as laid down in Annex II, point 3 of the draft Commission regulation do not take into account sufficiently the actual performance of the vacuum cleaner (i.e. the dust pick-up) and, as such, the time really spent and the energy really consumed using it, and whereas vacuum cleaners with a low dust pick-up performance must be used for significantly longer than efficient machines in order to achieve the same satisfactory cleaning result (i.e. until the visible dust has been picked up) and have therefore a much higher energy use;

- G. whereas the above-mentioned formulae, which will be used to determine the energy efficiency class of a vacuum cleaner, will result in the awarding of the best energy efficiency classes to energy-inefficient vacuum cleaners that have a low input power (i.e. low wattage), combined with a non satisfactory cleaning performance (i.e. low dust pick-up);
 - H. whereas consumers should be entitled to expect that a vacuum cleaner with the best energy efficiency class actually removes as much dust as is possible, and whereas only vacuum cleaners that are truly energy efficient (i.e. which have high cleaning performance combined with low input power) should be awarded the best energy efficiency classes;
 - I. whereas manufacturers of poorly performing vacuum cleaners should not gain an undeserved competitive advantage over manufacturers of high-quality vacuum cleaners produced in the European Union;
1. Considers that the draft Commission Regulation implementing Directive 2009/125/EC with regard to ecodesign requirements for vacuum cleaners is not compatible with the aim and the content of the basic act;
 2. Opposes the adoption of the draft Commission Regulation;
 3. Asks the Commission to modify the annual energy consumption formulae in Annex II, point 3 of the draft Commission Regulation in keeping with the recommendations made in this resolution, and to submit the amended draft Commission Regulation with the new formula as soon as possible, and in any case no later than 31 July 2013;
 4. Calls in particular on the Commission to increase the standard difference between dust pick-up after five and after two double strokes from 0.20 to 0.50 in the annual energy consumption formulae applicable to carpet and hard floor vacuum cleaners as laid down in Annex II, point 3 of the draft Commission Regulation, in order to reflect better the importance of dust pick-up in the energy use of a vacuum cleaner;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission.