

## **Review of emission inventories under the revised EU NEC Directive**

Article 10(3) of the revised NECD requests the Commission, with the assistance of the European Environment Agency and in consultation with the Member States, to review the national emission inventory data in the first year of reporting (which is 2017) and regularly thereafter. The review of information submitted shall include:

- Checks to verify the transparency, accuracy, consistency, comparability and completeness;
- Checks to identify possible inconsistencies with LRTAP reporting;
- Calculations of technical corrections where needed.

The first emission inventory data review under the revised NECD, scheduled for 2017, will be conducted on the emission data submitted in February / March 2017. In support of this comprehensive review, a 1€M support contract was awarded to UBA Austria who will act as project leader of a large team consisting of more than 40 review experts of different institutes and organisations, many of them with experience in the LRTAP emission review work.

The overall primary objective of the 2017 review is to contribute to establish accurate, reliable and verified emission inventories for all Member States which will inform and ensure equal treatment in future compliance checking of the national reduction commitments set in the directive.

The scope of 2017 review has been clearly defined. The 2017 review will focus on:

- National emission inventories and IIRs of all 28 Member States;
- SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, NMVOC and PM<sub>2.5</sub>;
- All NFR categories, with special focus on key categories for a specific pollutant;
- Special focus on base year (2005), latest year for which data are available (2015) and year in between (2010);
- Consistency of full time series.

The timetable for the 2017 review is at the moment still tentative, awaiting finalisation at the kick-off meeting in January 2017 between the Commission and the contractor. The review will basically consist of following six steps (with tentative timeline in brackets):

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. Preparation of the review                                    | (January - April);     |
| 2. Desk reviews   | (May - June);          |
| 3. Centralized review   | (June - July);         |
| 4. Country visits and capacity building activities where needed | (September - October); |
| 5. Review reports   | (August - November);   |
| 6. Horizontal evaluation report                                 | (December - February)  |

Given that it will be the first time that a comprehensive and in-depth review of national emission inventories will be carried out under the NEC legislation, a proper preparation for a successful outcome of the review will be essential. The preparation phase will therefore concentrate on the development of specific EU review guidelines and review reporting templates, based on the (revised) EMEP review guidelines and EU Effort Sharing Decision/GHG inventories review guidelines and templates, to support the review experts in their work. A key element here is the development of clear guidance on how the technical corrections for under- and overestimates of inventory data should be calculated, an element currently not covered in the EMEP review guidelines.

After the first comprehensive review in 2017 more reviews on a regular basis will be carried in 2018 and thereafter, in line with requirements of article 10(3) of the revised NEC Directive. These reviews will have a broader scope than the first review and also include reviews of reported emission data on CO, HM (Cd, Pb, Hg), POPs (PAH, dioxins/furans, PCB's, HCB), PM2.5, PM10 (and BC). The approach for such reviews has not been determined yet, but likely will be organized in a 4 year cycle (by groups of MS, sectors or pollutants). Alignment with similar review activities carried out under LRTAP will be pursued as appropriate.