

Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee "Extractive Industry"



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JOINT POSITION OF THE SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE "EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY"

ETS back loading: no short cuts to short term measures

Members of the EC Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee on Extractive Industries met on 22 February 2013 and discussed the status of affairs concerning the Commission's proposal to backload allowances in the 3rd Trading Period. The following conclusions were reached:

- The Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee opposes the European Parliament's Environment Committee attempt to start up negotiations with the Council on the basis of the Environment Committee's report in favour of backloading.
- In particular, because the result of the vote by the ITRE Committee on 24 January to reject the Commission's proposal in its entirety was clear (42 votes to 18), whereas the final vote by ENVI on 19 February to accept the proposal, with certain amendments, was relatively close (38 votes to 25).
- These voting results, show that the ENVI Committee has no clear negotiating mandate from the Parliament to enter dialogue. The opinion from the ITRE Committee cannot be neglected.
- An open and transparent vote in Plenary is the only way forward on this important and divisive issue. Failure to do this will bring into question the EU's law-making process.
- On Climate and Energy Policy, the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee believes that a long-term, stable framework is needed, not short cuts to short-term interventions that serve no long-term purpose. Any such political interference would ultimately discredit the ETS as a legitimate response to the climate challenge.

Brussels, 25th February 2013

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