The Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) requires industrial installations, including coal-fired power plants, to have a permit to operate.

IED emission limits for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and dust, agreed by European Parliament in 2010, are based on best-available techniques (BAT).

A revised BAT reference document (BREF) fails to consider the costs or impacts on energy security of ever-tighter emission limits that deter investment.

Revision of Large Combustion Plants BAT Reference Document
- co-ordinated every 8 years by the European IPPC Bureau at the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre in Seville

Large Combustion Plants BREF Technical Working Group
- 352 representatives from Member States, industry and NGOs
- adopts BAT conclusions by consensus or “split views” if none

Industrial Emissions Directive Forum
- representatives from MS and 74 industry associations / NGOs
- created under Art.13 of the Industrial Emissions Directive

EU Member States Committee
- MS representatives chaired by Commission under Art.75 of IED
- assists Commission and votes by qualified majority on proposal *

* i.e. “double majority” of 55% of Member States and representing at least 65% of EU population – four Member States can force a blocking minority

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