



THE SENATE
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
9TH TERM

562nd

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 23rd session held on 23rd July 2014

on the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants and amending Directive 2003/35/EC

/Senate Press no. N 111/09/

on the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants

/Senate Press no. N 112/09/

on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - a Clean Air Programme for Europe

/Senate Press no. K 113/09/

on the Proposal for a Council Decision on the acceptance of the Amendment to the 1999 Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone;

/Senate Press no. N 114/09/

The Senate

I.

1. Welcomes

the long-term effort of the European Commission to reduce emissions of harmful substances in the EU territory with regard to negative impacts of the air pollution on human health in the form of serious health problems and premature mortality that cause significant direct and indirect costs, the calculation of which the Commission has attempted to do in the presented documents;

2. Adds

that all member states should make every effort to ensure that their citizens may enjoy clean air and, in this context, they should also put an emphasis on land and water protection because both these important elements of the environment contribute considerably to elimination of pollutants from the air; the Senate also considers it appropriate to efficiently integrate the greenhouse gas emissions reduction policy with the policy of reducing harmful emissions;

II.

1. Supports

the position of the Government that generally takes a positive stance towards the proposals but has reserved the right to require changes in the emission objectives set for the Czech Republic after it has carried out its own impact assessment;

2. Considers it appropriate

that the Government intends to prepare its own assessment of impacts of the proposed emission ceilings on the Czech economy and to set the targets for the Czech Republic realistically;

3. Appreciates

the effort of the Government to maintain the continuity and stability of the legal framework for medium combustion plants that are, as opposed to the EU, already regulated in the Czech Republic under national legislation with a view to reducing their emissions;

4. Points out

the need for support and development of international cooperation in the process of emissions reduction with an emphasis on the cooperation between border regions of the EU member states, and also the need for convergence of national emission limits in the EU, considering significant cross-border impacts of transfer of harmful emissions;

5. Is aware

that the proposals have drawn criticism, especially from representatives of industrial associations that point out excessive strictness of the set targets that – if implemented – will require additional costs incurred by many enterprises with a significant impact on the competitiveness of the European industry;

6. Considers it, therefore, crucial

that due attention should be paid to impacts of the new regulation on the competitiveness of the European economy during the negotiation on the final wording of the proposals, and that the Union should do its utmost to engage the biggest world polluters, including the BRICs countries, in the global effort to reduce harmful emissions;

III.

1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate about the way this position was taken into account and to provide the Senate with further information on the proceeding of negotiations;

2. Authorises

the President of the Senate to forward this Resolution to the European Commission.

Milan Štěch
sign manual
President of the Senate

Patrik Kunčar
sign manual
Senate Verifier