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SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on the Environment,
Public Health and Consumer Protection

on the proposal from the Commission of the European
Communities to the Council (COM(83) 704 final -
Doc. 1-1304/83) for a directive on the limitation of
emissions of pollutants into the air from large
combustion plants

drawn up in response to the submission of an amended
proposal (COM(85) 47 final)

Rapporteur: Mrs U. SCHLEICHER

WG(2)1769E

PE 97.139/fin.
Or. De.

By letter of 4 March 1985 the Commission of the European Communities forwarded for information its amended proposal for a Council directive on the limitation of emissions of pollutants into the air from large combustion plants to the European Parliament pursuant to Article 149, second paragraph, of the EEC Treaty.

At its meeting of 20 March 1985, the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection decided to draw up a supplementary report on the original Commission proposal to the Council for a Council directive on the limitation of emissions of pollutants into the air from large combustion plants.

At this meeting Mrs Ursula SCHLEICHER was appointed rapporteur. The committee considered the draft report at its meetings of 20 March, 24 April and 21 May 1985.

At the latter meeting the committee adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole by 16 votes with 5 abstentions.

The following took part in the vote: Mrs WEBER, chairman; Mrs SCHLEICHER, vice-chairman and rapporteur; Mrs BLOCH von BLOTTNITZ and Mr COLLINS, vice-chairmen; Mrs BANOTTI, Mr ELLIOTT (deputizing for Mr Tognoli), Mr HUGHES, Mr IVERSEN, Mrs LENTZ-CORNETTE, Mr MERTENS, Mr MUNTINGH, Mr PEARCE, Mrs PEUS (deputizing for Mr Alber), Mr ROELANTS du VIVIER, Mr RYAN (deputizing for Mr Parodi), Mr SCHMID, Mr SCHWALBA-HOTH (deputizing for Mr van der Lek), Mr SHERLOCK, Mrs SQUARCIALUPI, Ms TONGUE and Mr VITTINGHOFF.

The report was tabled on 28 May 1985.

The deadline for tabling amendments to this report will be indicated in the draft agenda for the part-session at which it will be debated.

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The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive on the limitation of emissions of pollutants into the air from large combustion plants, in response to the submission by the Commission of an amended proposal

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission to the Council¹,
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Articles 100 and 235 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 1-1304/83),
 - having regard to its opinion of 16 November 1984 on the proposal for a Council directive on the limitation of emissions of pollutants into the air from large combustion plants (Doc. 2-950/84)²,
 - having regard to the amended Commission proposal to the Council (COM(85) 47 final)³,
 - having regard to the communication from the Council of the European Communities to the press on the occasion of the 990th meeting of the Council for Environmental Matters on 7/8 March 1985 on the progress of deliberations in the Council on this proposal for a directive⁴,
 - having regard to the conclusions reached at the European Council on 29/30 March 1985,
 - having regard to the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Falconer, Mr Glinne, Mr Collins, Mrs Dury and Mr Muntingh on behalf of the Socialist Group on the problem of acid rain (Doc. B2-248/85),
 - having regard to the supplementary report of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection (A2-57/85),
 - having regard to the previous result of the vote on the Commission proposal,
1. Welcomes the fact that in its amended proposal the Commission has incorporated some of the European Parliament's amendments to the original Commission proposal;
 2. Notes that its main amendments which were agreed on by a large majority of the European representatives of the 270 million citizens of the Community have not been incorporated by the Commission of the European Communities;

¹ OJ No. C 49, 21.2.1984

² OJ No. C 337, 17.12.1984, p.438

³ OJ No. C 76, 22.3.1985

⁴ No. 5310/85 (Press 26)

3. Urges that the Commission and the Council should also take account of the European Parliament's main amendments. These relate to
- more rapid and extensive reduction in the emission of pollutants from large combustion plants,
 - provisions covering existing plant which must also include a drastic reduction in the emission of pollutants from existing plants,
 - the elimination of the present exceptions under Article 7 of the original Commission proposal,
 - height of stack,
 - the definition of 'low-sulphur fuel'.

This means amendments Nos. 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 21 and 22;

4. Condemns the Council for its irresponsible and obstructive attitude in its deliberations on this directive, an attitude which has allowed the acid pollution caused by large combustion plants to continue unabated;
 5. Condemns in particular the United Kingdom, which - in the matter of large combustion plants - is the major source of atmospheric pollution in the Community, for its delaying tactics and irresponsible attitude in the Council;
 6. Calls on the United Kingdom at least to join the '30 per cent club' without delay and thus make a start on curbing the transfrontier pollution caused by its large combustion plants, the levels of which are the highest in the Community, and far exceed the limits of international acceptability;
 7. Urges Ireland and Greece also to join the '30 per cent club' by the proposed deadline of 9 July 1985;
 8. Calls moreover on Italy to abandon its obstructive attitude in the Council towards the proposal for a directive;
 9. Urges the Council in the light of the importance of reducing atmospheric pollution for the basis of life throughout the European Community to initiate the conciliation procedure with the European Parliament in accordance with Rule 38(1) of the Rules of Procedure as there is no indication at the present stage of negotiations in the Council that the Council is willing to discuss at all quite fundamental proposals from the European Parliament;
 10. Calls upon the Council, finally, to bring forward the time-limits for the adoption of the directive, in view of the fact that in some Member States a rapid decision is required in addition to an effective directive in order genuinely to combat atmospheric pollution;
- Constructs its President to forward to the Council and the Commission the text of this resolution of the European Parliament together with the opinion of the European Parliament of November 1984.