



Notification Number: 2018/544/F

Order on the reduction of the sulphur content of domestic fuel oil

Date received : 30/10/2018

End of Standstill : 31/01/2019

Message

Message 002

Communication from the Commission - TRIS/(2018) 02973

Directive (EU) 2015/1535

Translation of the message 001

Notification: 2018/0544/F

No abre el plazo - Nezahajuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Não inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - He ce предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201802973.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 002 IND 2018 0544 F EN 30-10-2018 F NOTIF

2. Member State

F

3. Department Responsible

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4. Notification Number

2018/0544/F - N40E

5. Title

Order on the reduction of the sulphur content of domestic fuel oil

6. Products Concerned

Domestic fuel oil

7. Notification Under Another Act

-

8. Main Content

The French authorities wish to lower the maximum sulphur content of domestic fuel oil from 0.10 % (m/m) (or 1 000 ppm) to 0.005 % (m/m) (or 50 ppm). It refers to domestic fuel oil produced or introduced onto the French national market from 1 January 2024.

The reduction in the sulphur content of domestic fuel oil is one of the measures of the national plan to reduce atmospheric pollutant emissions [PRÉPA] adopted pursuant to Article 6 of Directive (EU) 2016/2284. This reduction is necessary for reducing SO₂ emissions in proportions that conform with France's commitments for 2030.

Between 2005 and 2015, the energy conversion industry has already reduced its SO₂ emissions by 78 %. This is a decrease of 55 % for the residential/tertiary sector, resulting from the reduction in the consumption of domestic fuel oil.

The reduction of the sulphur content in fuel and combustibles is an established and continuing fundamental trend, including in other sectors such as marine fuels. The level of sulphur of domestic fuel oil has decreased six times in France since 1960. Obtaining a level of 50 ppm does not pose any particular technical difficulty: the maximum content of diesel fuel is 10 ppm. Moreover, the sales volume of diesel is well above the sales volume of domestic fuel oil.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

This measure is in the general interest of protecting human health and life by encouraging the reduction of pollutant emissions at the source. It is necessary for reducing SO₂ emissions in order to meet France's commitments for 2030 pursuant to Directive (EU) 2016/2284. The reduction of SO₂ emissions also contributes to the achievement of the objectives set out in Directive 2008/50/EC.

Sulphur dioxide (SO₂) is mainly produced from the combustion of fossil fuels. It causes irritation of the mucous membranes, of the skin and the respiratory tract (coughing, difficulty breathing, asthmatic diseases) and contributes to acid rain and stone deterioration. It contributes to the formation of fine particles by reacting in the atmosphere with nitrogen oxides.



10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

Reference(s) to basic text(s): Order of 15 July 2010 on the characteristics of domestic fuel oil

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

15. Impact assessment

-

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

No - the draft has no significant impact on international trade.

SPS aspect

No - the draft has no significant impact on international trade.

European Commission

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