

ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE

WORK PROGRAMME

Version of 29 April 2020

ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE TASK FORCE MANDATE:

NO.	ACTIVITY	DEADLINE	ACTIVITIES (DETAILS)	DELIVERABLE	TASK LEADER	REMARKS
I. Large Combustion Plants						
1.	20 th Task Force meeting	May 2020 (online, half-day)	Exchange on LCPD reporting experience and results Discussion on Work Programme Discussion on the outgoing capacities concerned by opt-out. In light of the COVID-19 crisis, Contracting Parties should inform the Secretariat well in advance of any extraordinary conditions (related e.g. to security of supply), requiring continuation of the opt-out regime, even if only limited in time.	Work Programme	ECS	
2.	Preparation of summary report of emissions from LCPs in the 2019 reporting year	May 2020	The Secretariat will compile and assess the information reported by Contracting Parties in the 2020 reporting round (period covered: 1 January 2019 – 31 December 2019),	Report (to be presented to PHLG)	ECS	

			also in light of the NERP and opt-out implementation alternatives.			
3.	Submission of questionnaires for 2020 Implementation Report	June 2020	Task Force members are required to report on developments and current status on the transposition and implementation of all pieces of the environmental <i>acquis</i> .	Filled-in questionnaire	Contracting Parties	
4.	Submission of questionnaires related to District Heating and Cooling	June 2020	District heating plants are covered by Chapter III of the Industrial Emissions Directive (with certain derogations provided for existing ones under Article 35). Task Force members are invited to contribute to the compilation of the baseline data and first proposals for the project.	Filled-in questionnaire	Contracting Parties	
5.	21 st Task Force meeting	October 2020	Discussion on the Clean Air Regions Initiative and District Heating and Cooling.		ECS/Contracting Parties	
6.	Submission of questionnaires related to Clean Air Initiative	December 2020	Task Force members are invited to the identification of clean air regions, data compilation (beyond LCPs), and identification of bottlenecks.	Filled-in questionnaire	Contracting Parties	
7.	Reporting of 2020 emissions	March 2021	Contracting Parties to report their emissions data for the reporting year 2020 to the online database of the	Datasets	Contracting Parties/EEA	ECS assistance where necessary

			European Environment Agency.			
8.	Evaluation of Clean Air Regions Initiative	April 2021	Based on the contributions provided by the Contracting Parties and regions, measures are to be identified to ameliorate the situation of air quality, based on the examples and best practices from the clean air regions.	Report	ECS/Contracting Parties	
9.	22 nd Task Force meeting	April 2021	Exchange on LCPD reporting experience and results Exchange on the outcome of the Clean Air Initiative		ECS/Contracting Parties	...
10.	Preparation of summary report of emissions from LCPs in the 2020 reporting year	May 2021	The Secretariat will compile and assess the information reported by Contracting Parties in the 2021 reporting round (period covered: 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020), also in light of the NERP and opt-out implementation alternatives.	Report (to be presented to PHLG)	ECS	
11.	23 rd Task Force meeting	October 2021	Discussion on the state of play of replacement of opted-out capacities. Evaluation of the outcome and results of the Clean Air Initiative.		ECS/Contracting Parties	
12.	Reporting of 2021 emissions	March 2022	Contracting Parties to report their emissions data for the reporting year 2021 to the online database of the	Datasets	Contracting Parties/EEA	ECS assistance where necessary

			European Environment Agency.			
13.	24 th Task Force meeting	April 2022	Exchange on LCPD reporting experience and results		ECS/Contracting Parties	
II. Other Legislation						
1.	Updates to existing pieces of EU environmental law covered by the Energy Community Treaty	October 2020 – April 2021	<p>EU legislation on wild birds has significantly advanced since the adoption of the Energy Community Treaty. The Treaty, however, still covers this directive in its 2006 form and to a very limited extent.</p> <p>The Air Quality Directive has prominent links to air pollution arising from the energy sector.</p> <p>Certain provisions of the Water Framework Directive bear direct relevance for hydropower.</p> <p>The Medium Combustion Plants (MCP) Directive has direct relevance for Network Energy.</p>	<p>Proposal for Ministerial Council decisions</p> <p>Development of Policy Guidelines for the implementation of the Wild Birds Directive</p>	<p>COM</p> <p>ECS</p>	With ECS assistance
2.	Submission of detailed information related to the implementation of Wild Birds Directive	September 2020	Information submitted to be used in the discussions related to nature protection.		Contracting Parties	

3.	21 st Task Force meeting	October 2020	Information on status Workshop on nature protection and on potential additional measures in the Contracting Parties		COM/Contracting Parties/ECS	
4.	Environmental Liability Directive	October 2020	The transposition and implementation deadline of this directive is 1 January 2021. The topic shall feature on the agenda of the Task Force meeting and a separate, topical online workshop has to take place, focusing on this issue.	Contracting Parties to submit their national legislation transposing the directive's provisions.	ECS / Contracting Parties	
5.	Sulphur in Fuels	October 2020	Following the entry into force of the global 0.50% sulphur cap in maritime transport on 1 January 2020 and the related provisions of the Directive, Contracting Parties are also obliged to implement it in their jurisdictions. The topic shall feature on the agenda of the Task Force meeting and – if necessary – a separate, topical online workshop has to take place.	Contracting Parties to submit information on compliance.	Contracting Parties	
6.	Nature protection	December 2020		Online workshop	ECS / Contracting Parties	
7.	Stocktaking on MCPs	December 2020	Information necessary for assessing the magnitude and current status of plants that would be concerned by the	Information on the number of MCPs in the Contracting Party	Contracting Parties	

			MCP Directive in the Contracting Parties			
8.	Fuel Quality	December 2020	Recommendation 2018/02/MC-EnC introduced the Fuel Quality Directive in the Energy Community acquis. Its implementation and related challenges shall be discussed within the framework of the Task Force.	Online workshop	ECS / Contracting Parties	
9.	22 nd Task Force meeting	April 2021	Further discussions	Recommendation for COM proposals	COM/Contracting Parties/ECS	If necessary
10.	Industrial Emissions Directive	April 2021	New plants have to meet the requirements of the Directive already since 1 January 2018. At the same time, with decarbonisation efforts getting more and more prominent, the construction of such new capacities may become redundant. The Task Force shall take stock on planned projects and give those a feasibility check in light of financing and post-covid green recovery.	Contracting Parties to submit information on planned projects.	Contracting Parties	
11.	Environmental impact assessment	Continuous	The Task Force has to continuously take stock of the status of Network Energy-related EIAs in the Contracting Parties and also has to follow the work under the Aarhus Convention.	Information to be provided by Task Force members.	Contracting Parties	

12.	Strategic environmental assessment	Continuous	The Task Force has to continuously take stock of the status of Network Energy-related SEAs in the Contracting Parties.	Information to be provided by Task Force members	Contracting Parties	
III. Other						
1.	20 th Environmental Task Force	May 2020	State of play on policy guidelines for small hydropower projects – input from TF members	Policy Guidelines	ECS/ Contracting Parties	
2.	Public consultation on Policy Guidelines	May-June 2020	Task Force members to actively participate in information distribution and gathering of feedback from stakeholders		Contracting Parties	