

Evaluation Response

Brussels, 03 May 2011



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Avenue Louise 375, Box 4 • B-1050 Brussels

Subject: Public Evaluation of the Eco-design Directive

Eurima Response to the EC Online survey questionnaire - Stakeholders

DG Enterprise and Industry of the European Commission has requested the Centre for Strategy and Evaluation Services and our partners Oxford Research to carry out an independent evaluation of the Ecodesign Directive (2009/125/EC).

The evaluation is expected to assess the effectiveness and utility of the Directive, identify existing barriers and obstacles and provide recommendations to contribute to a review and, if appropriate, revision of the Directive. It will also examine the appropriateness of extending the scope of the Directive beyond energy related products.

The success of the evaluation is dependent upon the information and feedback that we receive from all actors involved, including the stakeholders representing industry, consumers and environmental groups.

Any information provided is confidential. The results presented to the European Commission will be aggregated and individual enterprises will not be identifiable. CSES aims to comply with the Data Protection Directive (95/46/EC), as implemented in the UK where we are based, under the Data Protection Act 1998. We also comply with EC Regulation No 45/2001 concerning the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by EU institutions.

However, for the purposes of the study we will need to make reference to the sources of data presented related to general - not firm specific - developments in the market. Please indicate in the relevant question whether the source should be treated as confidential wherever applicable.

Please send your responses to eco-design.evaluation@cses.co.uk by April 20.

Introduction

1. Please indicate the name of your organisation

Eurima - European Insulation Manufacturers Association

2. What type of organisation do you represent?

European industry association

3. With which of the products already covered by implementing measures do you have experience of as a manufacturer/importer or as other types of stakeholder involved in the development of the respective implementing measure (state more than one if applicable)?

N/a

4. Please indicate any other categories of energy-using products not currently covered by implementing measures you have experience of, as a manufacturer/importer or as a stakeholder

N/a

5. In your view, how does the Directive fulfil its role within the context of the Action Plan for sustainable consumption and production (SCP) and sustainable industrial policy (SIP) (COM(2008) 397) ? Please explain

N/a

6. Based on the experience so far, how does the Directive relate to and interface with other Community environmental (e.g. WEEE, RoHS, REACH, F-Gas Directive) and health and safety regulations (e.g. Low Voltage Directive, EMC Directive, Machinery Directive, Construction Products Directive) ? Are there any problematic areas? Please explain

N/a

7. In your view, how effectively does the Directive complement other relevant policy instruments (Energy Label, Eco-label and Green Public Procurement)? Are there any problems? Is it possible to streamline the product related policy instruments? Please explain

N/a

Efficiency and Implementation Procedures

8. How adequate do you consider the procedures set by the Directive for identifying products with significant impact and improvement potential to be?

Working plan - adequate

Preparatory studies - adequate

Consultation forum - rather inadequate

9. Are there any parts of the procedure that you consider inadequate or problematic? What are the problems/issues (of the specific parts or in general)? Please explain

We have a comment regarding the work currently being developed for the selection of a priority list of products to be covered by the future Commission's Working Plan. This is a very important task, where all possibly relevant products should be analysed in detail, taking into account their environmental performance from a life-cycle perspective, and also taking into account whether they are final products or intermediate products. This enormous task has been assigned by the Commission to a single consultant. In our opinion, it is not realistic to pretend that a detailed and accurate assessment of such a big number of products can be undertaken by a single consultant. The elaboration of such an important study should have been assigned to a consortium of consultants (for instance), allowing each of them to address certain product categories with sufficient detail.

10. Have you experienced any problems relating to participation in the various phases of the process of developing one or more implementing measures? Do you have the necessary resources available for effective participation? Please explain

N/a

11. How adequate do you consider the criteria set in Article 15.2 of the Directive (volume of sales/trade, environmental impacts, improvement potential, etc.) for identifying products with significant impact and improvement potential.

Rather inadequate

12. If you consider that any of the criteria are inadequate, please explain below. Please indicate what, if any, changes you consider as possible/necessary?

1- The statistics used (Eurostat, PROD,) are rather general/global and do not refer to the specific products.

2- The reference for quantifying the environmental impacts is top-down made and does not reflect the present products (products and processes develop ever faster and are not represented by the environmental data used).

3- The environmental assessment is not based on CEN/ISO standards; The system boundaries and a holistic approach is missing.

4- The use stage of the product life cycle is not properly represented: there is focus on product and production of the device and not enough focus on the use stage (=use, maintenance, repair, replacement).

13. How adequate do you consider the criteria set by the Directive (Article 15 and Annexes I and II) for identifying and covering significant environmental parameters and considering the whole life cycle of products?

Rather inadequate

14. Based on your experience, are there any issues/problems related to the use of the criteria set by the Directive (Article 15 and Annexes I and II) for identifying and covering significant environmental parameters and considering the whole life cycle of products? Please explain

See answer to question 12

15. How adequate do you consider the methodology (MEEuP/MEErP) developed for the identification and inclusion of significant environmental parameters considering the whole life cycle of products?

No opinion/Do not know

16. Are there any issues/problems relating to the MEEuP/MEErP methodology? What are they? Which products do they concern? Please explain

We consider that the MEEuP is not suitable for MEErP

17. Based on your experience, how adequate are the requirements set by the implementing measures?

Standby and off-mode losses of EuPs - No opinion/Do not know

Simple set-top boxes - No opinion/Do not know

Domestic lighting (general lighting equipment) - No opinion/Do not know

Tertiary Lighting - No opinion/Do not know

Battery chargers and external power supplies - No opinion/Do not know

Domestic refrigerators and freezers - No opinion/Do not know

Electric motors 1-150 kW - No opinion/Do not know

Televisions - No opinion/Do not know

Domestic Dishwashers - No opinion/Do not know

Domestic washing machines - No opinion/Do not know

18. What, if any, are the issues/problems related to the requirements set? Which products do they concern? How appropriate is the tiered approach of strengthening the minimum requirements adopted for some products and periodically reviewing the measures? Please explain

N/a

Role of standards

19. Based on your experience, to what extent have technical standards contributed to the successful implementation of the Directive to date? Please explain

Technical standards per definition reflect the existing widely spread state of the product (family) and not the top performance, the lead products. What is missing in all technical standards is the relative new environmental characteristics for products. The assessment of environmental (or even wider sustainability) assessment is missing. see also answer to 12.

20. Are there specific problems related to the development and use of technical standards? Are there any gaps in the development of standards in relation to any of the products covered? Please explain

N/a

21. How does the experience from the Eco-design Directive compare with that of other New Approach directives in relation to the use of standards?

N/a

22. In your view would it be possible and adequate to rely on the use of harmonised standards on the basis of generic requirements instead of developing specific requirements for each product category?

Only if it concerns end-use-products

Voluntary agreements

23. Has your organisation been involved in the development of voluntary agreements concerning any of the following products?

N/a

24. How adequate do you consider the use of voluntary agreements?

N/a

25. What, if any, has been is your experience with the development of voluntary agreements so far? What, if any, have been the issues/problems in relation to specific products? What are the success factors?

Voluntary agreements could be quite disturbing to the market if not all products/manufacturers within a product family are covered and if not are subjected to the same (self imposed) minimum performance level. The end-user/consumer will not be able to distinguish between the performance and/or to identify the performance aspects between participants/participating products and nonparticipants/ non-participating products.

Costs of the implementation of the Directive

26. What are the main types of administrative costs? Please provide any data available on costs and/or indicate the full time equivalent of employees dedicated :

N/a

27. How do the administrative costs related to compliance with implementing measures of the Eco-Design Directive compare to the costs arising from other environmental legislation you have experience with?

No opinion/Do not know

Impact on innovation

28. Based on your experience, how important has been the implementation of the Directive and the respective implementing measures as an incentive for the development of innovation activities in firms?

No opinion/Do not know

29. Please provide any additional information on the role (positive or negative) of the Ecodesign Directive or specific implementing measures in the development of innovation in firms:

N/a

30. What, if any, has been the role of the advanced benchmarks provided in the implementing measures in the development of innovation in firms?

N/a

Impact on third countries

31. Based on your experience, has the Directive had any impact so far on the industry and the markets of energy-using products in third countries? What has this been? Has it contributed towards a global harmonisation of products? Please provide any supporting evidence:

N/a

32. Are you familiar with other similar energy polices in third countries outside the EU? If so, what do you consider as their relative strengths and weaknesses? How do their results compare with the Ecodesign Directive?

N/a

Market surveillance

33. Based on your experience, how effective is market surveillance by Member States authorities across the EU?

No opinion/Do not know

34. Based on your experience, is the application of the Directive uniform across the EU?

No

Please explain providing specific examples if available

Some Member States apply Prescriptive Product requirements and other Member States have Performance-based requirements. This makes a world of difference in applying and implementing the Directive

35. What, if any, are the problems related to the surveillance of the market? What are their effects on the operation of the Internal Market? Please explain

N/a

36. Based on your experience are there any products on the market that do not comply with the requirements of the Directive and the implementing measures? If so, to what extent?

N/a

37. Based on your experience, what is the level of information available to support the interpretation of and compliance with implementing measures?

No opinion/Do not know

Effectiveness

38. Do you have any evidence/data/studies concerning the developments in the markets of one or more of those Energy Using products for which implementing measures have already been adopted? Please provide information including the evolution of the volumes of sales, prices of products, availability and variety of products. Please provide any such information in the box below or send any supportive document to Eco-design.evaluation@cses.co.uk

Note: Please present information classifying products according to the different energy-efficiency or other environmental impact categories/classes as set in the relevant implementing measures.

N/a

39. Do you have any evidence/data/studies available concerning the developments in the level of total energy consumption, resources uses or other environmental impacts (e.g. emissions, hazardous substances) related to one or more of those Energy Using products for which implementing measures have already been adopted? Please provide any such information below or send any supportive document to Eco-design.evaluation@cses.co.uk

N/a

40. Based on your experience, how have the implementing measures affected the choice of products on the market?

Standby and off-mode losses of EuPs - Led to an increased range of better performing products

Simple set-top boxes - Led to an increased range of better performing products

Domestic lighting (general lighting equipment) - Led to an increased range of better performing products

Tertiary Lighting - Led to an increased range of better performing products

Battery chargers and external power supplies - Led to an increased range of better performing products

Domestic refrigerators and freezers - Led to an increased range of better performing products

Electric motors 1-150 kW - Led to an increased range of better performing products

Televisions - Led to an increased range of better performing products

Domestic Dishwashers - Led to an increased range of better performing products

Domestic washing machines - Led to an increased range of better performing products

41. Do you have any evidence of the effect of the Directive on the costs of production, prices and profit margins for firms? Please provide any information below or send any supportive documents to Eco-design.evaluation@cses.co.uk

N/a

42. Based on your experience, have there been any particular effects of the Directive on SMEs? What are they?

N/a

43. Based on your experience, have there been any particular effects of the Directive on importers of products from non-EU countries? What are they?

N/a

44. In your view, what have been the overall effects of the Directive and the relevant implementing measures on the competitiveness of the European industry until now?

Standby and off-mode losses of EuPs - Do not know

Simple set-top boxes - Do not know

Domestic lighting (general lighting equipment) - Do not know

Tertiary Lighting - Do not know

Battery chargers and external power supplies - Do not know

Domestic refrigerators and freezers - Do not know

Electric motors 1-150 kW - Do not know

Televisions - Do not know

Domestic Dishwashers - Do not know

Domestic washing machines - Do not know

Utility of the Directive

45. Based on the experience to this point, what do you think is the contribution of the Eco-design Directive in the following key objectives of the EU policy?

Achieve greenhouse gas emissions reduction - Moderately important

Achieve a high level of protection of environment - Moderately important

Competitiveness of EU industry - Moderately important

Creation of a harmonized market and avoid fragmentation of the market - Moderately important

Increase the security of energy supply and reduce import dependency - Moderately important

46. In your view, could the results achieved - or expected to be achieved - by the Eco-design have been realised with EU legislation through national regulation, voluntary agreements or other existing EU or national regulatory instruments and policy tools? Please explain

N/a

47. Are there any other issues you would like to raise concerning the implementation of the Directive to this point? Please state

Eco-design requirements are important. But nevertheless it should be taken into account that -if used randomly and without taking into consideration life-cycle approach and a sound method for the evaluation of the environmental impact of products, such as the EPDs- the Eco-Design requirements could hamper the performance of certain products that, over their life span, are clearly beneficial for the environment and the EU policy goals for reduction of CO2 emissions.

Extension of the Directive

48. Do you consider it appropriate to extend the Directive to cover non-energy related products and modes of transport?

Non-energy related products - No

Modes of transport - No opinion/Do not know

49. What are in your view the reasons for extending/not extending the Directive?

Extension of the Directive to other products should carefully respect the life-cycle approach, requiring environmental product declarations (EPD) as the basic tool for evaluation of the environmental performance of products. In addition, the environmental requirements developed under the standardization process (CEN) should also be respected.

50. Are there any non-energy related product categories that you would propose should be covered or excluded from the Directive? What is the reason? Do you have supporting data/information? What type of eco-design requirements could be applied to the products you listed? Please provide any such information below or send any supportive documents to Eco-design.evaluation@cses.co.uk

The environmental performance of insulation products depends on the building or building system they are incorporated in. Therefore, the Eco-Design Directive should consider elements such as the respect of the lifecycle approach and the work being developed by the CEN on standardisation. The European Insulation Platform (EIP) has elaborated a detailed study on the impact of insulation products on the Eco-Design criteria.