

Coal Combustion Products in Europe - Development and Trends -

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ABSTRACT

In 2006, about 61 million tonnes of CCPs were produced in Europe (EU15). The production in all the European members states is estimated to be about 100 million tonnes. Over the last years, the production of these CCPs has been increased in the member states due to legal requirements for flue gas cleaning. The utilisation of CCPs is well established in some European countries, based on long term experience and technical as well as environmental benefits. The CCPs are mainly utilised in the building material industry, in civil engineering, in road construction, for construction work in underground coal mining as well as for recultivation and restoration purposes in open cast mines. The majority of the CCPs is produced to meet certain requirements of standards or other specifications with respect to utilisation in certain areas.

The utilisation of CCPs in Europe is being influenced by environmental legislation and by the liberalization of the electricity market. At present, the most important discussion focus the definition of CCPs. With the revision of the Waste Directive also "by-products" and "end-of-waste" will be defined. By-products will from the beginning be not subject to waste legislation, end-of-waste materials are resulting from the recovery of waste. For non-waste-materials the REACH regulation have to be considered and substances which are not waste are subject to REACH.

The use of CCPs has several environmental and technical benefits. It has developed by the years and is mostly based on requirements of standards or other specifications which are subject to regular revision by CEN or national authorities. At present, the European standards EN 450-1 and EN 450-2 are under revision. Also under revision are the new revised standards for hydraulic road binders, for aggregates and lightweight aggregates.

This paper gives on overview on production and utilisation of CCPs in Europe and will focus the development of environmental legislation (Waste Directive, REACH Regulation) and the revision of European standards as well as aspects of the work of ECOBA with regard to these developments.