

Present Situation and Perspectives of CCP Management in Europe

Wolfgang vom Berg, Hans-Joachim Feuerborn

ECOBA -European Coal Combustion Products Association, P.O. Box 103932, 45039 Essen, Germany

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ABSTRACT

In Europe (EU 25) more than 93 million tonnes of Coal Combustion Products (CCPs) were produced, about 63 million tonnes in EU 15 countries and more than 30 million tonnes in the new EU member states. The CCPs include combustion residues such as boiler slag, bottom ash and fly ash from different types of boilers as well as desulphurization products like spray dry absorption product and FGD gypsum.

CCPs are mainly utilized 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 mining. They are used as a replacement for natural resources. By their utilization they help to reduce energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions to atmosphere for mining and production of products which are replaced and to save natural resources.

The majority of CCPs is produced to meet certain standards or specifications with respect to utilization in certain areas. The regulations are subject to revision (EN 450 – Fly ash for concrete) and extension (EN 14237-3+4 – Hydraulically bound mixtures). The requirements in these standards or specifications are based on results from research work or cause research projects to extend the application to CCPs. Beside the need for quality improvement by regulations the requirements of the construction market are influencing CCP management.

In this paper information on the present situation of production and utilization of CCPs in Europe is given. Furthermore, new developments on products and European standards will be presented. Impacts on CCP management by European regulations, political decisions of national authorities and by market needs in the construction industry in Europe will be discussed.

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