



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE
Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (Seville)
Sustainable Production and Consumption Unit
European IPPC Bureau

Seville, 15 May 2015

Subject: GUIDELINES FOR THE EXPRESSION OF INITIAL POSITIONS FOR THE REVIEW OF THE REFERENCE DOCUMENT ON BEST AVAILABLE TECHNIQUES ON SURFACE TREATMENT USING ORGANIC SOLVENTS

Dear Surface Treatment using Organic Solvents TWG members,

Welcome! It is our pleasure to welcome you as members of the Technical Working Group (TWG) for the review of the reference document on Best Available Techniques on Surface Treatment using Organic Solvents, the STS BREF.

The review of the STS BREF started with the reactivation of the TWG¹ which has resulted, as of today, in a list of 123 members from Member States, industry, environmental NGOs and services of the Commission that is available in the BAT Information System (BATIS). Following the decision to merge the information exchange work on activities 6.7 and 6.10 of Annex I to the IED², 32 members of the former Wood Preservation with Chemicals (WPC) TWG are being integrated into the STS TWG, resulting in a total number of 155 TWG members.

You should have recently received your access credentials for BATIS login at the web address <http://eippcb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/batis/login.jsp>. WPC TWG members will shortly be added to the joint STS/WPC TWG members list. We will advise them when this has been completed and they will then be able to access the joint BATIS site using their existing credentials. Information on data processing and protection can be found in the BREF Guidance³ and in the privacy statement published on the EIPPCB website at:

[http://eippcb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/reference/BREF/Privacy Statement BATIS DPO-1586.pdf](http://eippcb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/reference/BREF/Privacy%20Statement%20BATIS%20DPO-1586.pdf).

Please review the contact details given in BATIS in relation to your profile. Should you find incorrect information, or for general questions about BATIS, or for any changes of contact details,

¹ Letter from Luis Delgado dated 10 December 2014

² DG ENV email to the IED Article 13 Forum dated 5 May 2015

³ Guidance document for the exchange of information under the IED (Commission Implementing Decision 2012/119/EU) laying down rules concerning guidance on the collection of data and on the drawing up of BAT reference documents.

please contact the EIPPCB Secretariat (email: jrc-ipts-eippcb@ec.europa.eu, Tel: +34 954 488 284, fax: +34 954 488 426).

Below, we give some guidelines on the upcoming review of the STS BREF:

- Main steps for the revision of the STS BREF and the inclusion of WPC activities
- Role of a TWG member as detailed by Commission Implementing Decision 2012/119/EU, better known as the 'BREF Guidance'
- Guidelines for the expression of TWG members' initial positions on the main issues of the STS BREF review.

You are kindly asked to express your initial positions on the review the STS BREF by

26 June 2015

at the latest, by following the guidelines given below.

The STS TWG kick-off meeting is likely to take place in November 2015. Final dates depend not only on the progress of the STS BREF review, but also on the overall work planning of the EIPPCB.

Main steps for the review of the STS BREF

The main steps for the review of the STS BREF will follow the typical workflow given in the BREF Guidance Section 1.2.4:

- ✓ Preparation for the review by the EIPPCB (done, started in December 2014)
- ✓ TWG activation (done, December 2014)
- ✓ Call for the expression of TWG members' initial positions and related guidelines (this document and associated documents)
- Expression of TWG members' positions (deadline: 26 June 2015)
- Kick-off meeting of the TWG (indicative date: November 2015)
- Submission of information (deadlines will be set at the Kick-off meeting)
- The first formal draft of the revised STS BREF including the addition of WPC information
- TWG comments on the first draft
- (optional) Second formal draft

- (optional) TWG comments on the second draft
- Final TWG meeting
- Final draft
- Presentation of the revised BREF at an IED Article 13 forum meeting
- BAT conclusions voted at an IED Article 75 Committee meeting
- Publication of the BAT conclusions in the Official Journal of the European Union
- Publication of the BREF on the EIPPCB website.

Role of a TWG member

We would like to stress that TWG members are nominated to participate in the information exchange for the elaboration and review of BREFs primarily based on their technical and/or regulatory expertise as well as on their ability to bring the BREF end user's perspective. The tasks and duties of a TWG member are detailed in the 'BREF Guidance' that can be downloaded from the link given below:

Commission Implementing Decision (2012/119/EU) of 10 February 2012 lays down rules concerning guidance on the collection of data and on the review of BAT reference documents and on their quality assurance referred to in the Industrial Emissions Directive 2010/75/EU (IED):

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:063:FULL:EN:PDF>

For your convenience, the main tasks of a TWG member described in the BREF Guidance are given here:

1. To gain an awareness and understanding of the BREF Guidance.
2. To identify and list new/updated key data and issues relevant for deriving or updating BAT conclusions for the sector.
3. To actively collect targeted technical and economic information important for the drafting of the STS BREF, including in particular emission and consumption data from installations covered by the BREF (for the sector/Member State that he/she is representing). This will be carried out according to the process agreed by the TWG based on the general guidance of the EIPPCB in line with the principles set out in the BREF Guidance. It will also take into account issues such as confidential business information, sensitive information under competition law, conflicts of interest and other related matters.
4. To check the quality of the data and information collected before submitting them to the EIPPCB, in particular the data contained in the filled-in templates/questionnaires used to gather plant- or installation-specific information (see the BREF Guidance Sections 5.4 and 5.5).

5. To share the data collected with other STS TWG members and the EIPPCB by posting the information directly onto BATIS, with the possible exception of confidential business information or sensitive information under competition law (exceptionally, data may be submitted through other electronic means, e.g. via email).
6. To respond in a timely manner to requests for additional information or clarifications from the EIPPCB.
7. To comment within the set deadlines on the formal draft(s) of the STS BREF and other documents prepared by the EIPPCB.
8. To attend the STS TWG meetings and actively participate in them.
9. To share experience with the EIPPCB and other STS TWG members (e.g. during site visits to STS installations).
10. To identify and establish contacts/networks with non-TWG members (e.g. shadow groups of experts, competent authorities, operators or groups of operators, national groups) to gain more experience to be shared with the rest of the STS TWG and the EIPPCB.

Most of the work for STS TWG members can be expected to take place outside of the plenary meetings in the form of submitting information and reviewing draft text proposals. In particular, the successful development of the STS BREF requires the TWG to respond in detail to substantial draft documents within a limited time.

Guidelines for the expression of TWG members' initial positions on the main issues of the review of the STS BREF

Considering the timeline for the review of a BREF given in the BREF Guidance and the discussions at the IED Article 13 forum meeting of 6 June 2013, the STS TWG will:

- Adopt a focused approach to the overall STS BREF drafting process by:
 - focusing on BAT conclusions (and the associated BAT candidate chapter);
 - targeting the most polluting sectors;
 - targeting a limited number of key environmental issues;
 - collecting sound and reliable data, followed by appropriate data processing.
- Strictly limit the possibilities for time slippages.
- 'Front-load' the exchange of information.

This way of working, valid for the whole STS BREF drafting process, also requires focusing the former 'wish list' step to properly front-load the information exchange.

To assist this, the TWG members are sent the following documents:

1. Guidelines in this letter (**document 1**) on the way each TWG member is invited to express his/her position⁴.
2. A 'key issues' document (**document 2**), containing proposals and information requests, regarding:
 - a. The scope of the BREF.
 - b. The structure of the BREF and BAT conclusions (see also a proposed detailed structure in **document 3**), according to the IED, the BREF Guidance and the scope of the BREF.
 - c. The content of the BREF, especially with regard to sectors/applied techniques/processes to be covered.
 - d. The key environmental issues (KEI) for the sector.
 - e. The techniques to be considered in the determination of BAT.
3. Two Excel file templates (**document 4** for scope, structure, applied techniques, KEI and **document 5** for 'BAT candidates') for the expression of TWG initial positions focusing on the requests contained in document 2.
4. A presentation with a quick introduction on how to post information onto the BATIS platform (**document 6**). A more thorough presentation of BATIS and of its main functionalities could be given to the participants of the kick-off meeting.

Please consider that these documents are only used for the front-loading input to focus the discussion on the most important issues. These documents do not prejudice in any way the future BAT conclusions that will be shaped by means of the TWG exchange of information. The proposals are being made based on the information currently available.

The TWG members are invited to compile their positions on the review of the STS BREF by means of the Excel file templates (**documents 4 and 5**) following these guidelines, those in **document 2** and the tips given in the templates. To ease the completion of forms and the evaluation of feedback, the templates have been designed to provide simple options as answers. Where necessary, free text is possible. To be fully useable, a position should be accompanied by:

- (a) a short relevant rationale explaining the reasons behind the position,
- (b) supporting documents for the rationale, if appropriate (to be posted in BATIS and referenced in the Excel files),
- (c) clear suggestions on how to collect the information considered necessary for the review, including known sources.

⁴ This step corresponds to the 'call for wishes' indicated in Section 4.6.1 of the BREF Guidance.

In summary, the 'key issues' **document 2** covers in more detail:

- I The scope (see also the BREF Guidance Section 2.3.3); please check what is proposed to be covered and what is proposed to be excluded.
- II A proposed BREF structure (see also the BREF Guidance Sections 2.2, 2.3.8 and Chapter 3).
- III The applied processes and techniques to be described in the revised BREF.
- IV The potential key environmental issues for the STS sector (see also the BREF Guidance Sections 3.3 and 5.4).
- V The BAT candidate techniques and their environmental performances.

Please note that, at this stage of the BREF drafting, details are not needed; detailed information will be collected by means of the data and information collection following the kick-off meeting, but please indicate whether you will be able to provide technical information on the BAT candidate techniques and/or plant-specific environmental performance data.

Some issues are less strategic and, to focus and streamline the exchange of information, will be discussed later in the drafting process. For example, on the basis of the decisions taken at the kick-off meeting, information on:

- candidate techniques (e.g. economics, applicability restrictions, environmental improvement achieved),
- emerging techniques,
- the range of observed emission and consumption levels,

will be better collected during the data and bulk information collection step and fine-tuned during the first draft STS BREF commenting step.

We would like to highlight two areas for the WPC members of the TWG:

1) No action required: The information requested by this call for initial positions mainly refers to the surface treatment using solvents part of the STS BREF. The WPC members are reminded that a similar information collection, covering the same issues (information on installations, applied techniques, candidate BAT, key environmental issues etc.), was carried out for the WPC activities by the call for initial positions in October 2014. The WPC TWG provided their feedback and the specific information requests for WPC are not reiterated here.

2) Action required: As there will be no standalone BREF for the WPC sector, some of the issues and proposals previously made by the EIPPCB may need revision. The WPC experts are invited to comment on:

- changed proposals (e.g. for the scope of WPC activities to be covered),
- questions raised on general issues, such as the structure of the BREF and the BAT conclusions.

Finally, the TWG members are kindly invited to post the compiled files into the following folder in BATIS:

Forums > Surface Treatment using Organic Solvents > 02 Expression of the initial positions

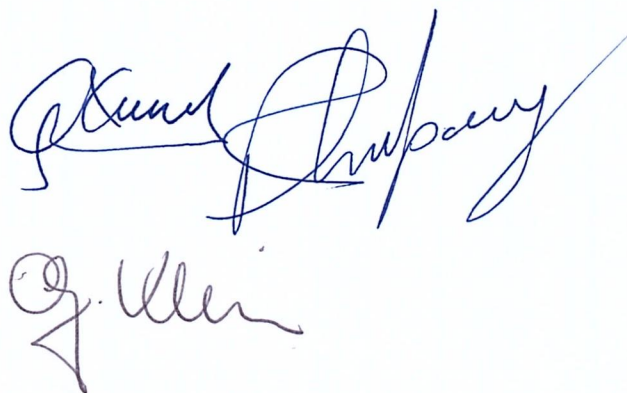
by the 26 June 2015 (to this end, please check the tips given in the quick introduction for posting onto BATIS (**document 6**)).

The compiled list of initial positions submitted by the STS TWG members will be grouped on the basis of the points indicated above (I, II, III, IV, V) and used to organise and structure the discussions at the kick-off meeting (see the BREF Guidance Section 4.6.2.2).

Should you have any questions regarding these guidelines or on the review of the STS BREF, please do not hesitate to contact us by phone at +34 954 488 732 / +34 954 488 391 / +34 954 488 467 or by e-mail at: jrc-ipts-eippcb-STs@ec.europa.eu.

The STS BREF review team

Gabriele Klein, Georgios Chronopoulos and Paul Tempary

The image shows two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The top signature is 'Paul Tempary' and the bottom signature is 'G. Klein'.