



Belgium

Environmental regulation is primarily the responsibility of each region. The regional legislative bodies have the power to adopt and enforce environmental laws, while the federal authority is responsible for certain limited areas (such as protection of the North Sea and ionising radiation). As Belgium is a member state of the European Union (EU), the regions (Brussels Capital Region, Flemish Region and Walloon Region) have transposed a series of EU directives relating to power plant emissions into law, the latest current one being the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED, 2010/75/EU). More details on EU directives relating to power plant emissions can be found in the entry for the European Union (see <http://www.iea-coal.org.uk/documents/83365/9582/European%20Union>).

Bruxelles Environnement (also known as IBGE) is responsible for the environment and energy in the Brussels Capital Region (see <http://www.environnement.brussels/>). It provides information about the IED at <http://www.environnement.brussels/thematiques/sante-securite/grandes-installations-industrielles>. In the Flemish Region, the Department of Environment, Nature and Energy (Departement Leefmilieu, Natuur en Energie, <http://www.lne.be/>), is responsible for environmental policy. Information on Flemish environmental regulations (termed VLAREM) can be found at <http://www.lne.be/themas/vergunningen>. The Walloon Agency for Air and Climate (L'Agence wallonne de l'Air et du Climat (AWAC), <http://www.awac.be/>) coordinates environmental policy in the Walloon Region. Information about the implementation of the IED in this Region can be found at <http://environnement.wallonie.be/emissions-industrielles/>.

The transposition of the IED into regional law was published by the Flemish government in the 10 September 2013 issue of the Belgian Official Gazette (in Dutch, http://www.ejustice.just.fgov.be/cgi/article.pl?language=nl&caller=summary&pub_date=2013-09-10&numac=2013035649) and by the Walloon government in the 11 March 2013 issue of the Belgian Official Gazette (in French, http://www.ejustice.just.fgov.be/cgi/article.pl?language=fr&caller=summary&pub_date=2013-03-11&numac=2013201396).

The following emission standards given in the IED (2010/75/EU) and adopted by the Belgian regions apply to large plants burning coal and lignite.

Particulate matter emission limits

Total rated thermal power input, MW	Existing plants, mg/Nm ³	New plants, mg/Nm ³
50-100	30	20
100-300	25	20
>300	20	10

SO₂ emission limits

Total rated thermal power input, MW	Existing plants, mg/Nm ³	New plants, mg/Nm ³
50-100	400	400
100-300	250	200
>300	200	150 (200 for circulating or pressurised fluidised bed combustion)

Exception: Plants that were granted a permit, or had submitted an application for one, before 27 November 2002 and were operating prior to 27 November 2003 can meet a limit of 800 mg/Nm³, provided they do not operate for more than 1500 hours as a rolling average over 5 years.

If able to demonstrate that these emissions limits are impossible to meet due to fuel characteristics, plants using domestic solid fuels have the option of instead meeting desulphurisation rates given in the following table:

Total rated thermal power input, MW	Plants operational prior to 2003*	Plants operational prior to 2014†	New plants
50-100	80%	92%	93%
100-300	90%	92%	93%
>300	96%	96%	97%

* Plants which were granted a permit, or had submitted an application for one, before 27 November 2002 and were in operation before 27 November 2003.

† Plants which were granted a permit, or had submitted an application for one, before 7 January 2013 and were in operation by 7 January 2014.

NO_x emission limits

Total rated thermal power input, MW	Existing plants, mg/Nm ³	New plants, mg/Nm ³
50-100	300 450 for pulverised lignite combustion	300 400 for pulverised lignite combustion
100-300	200	200
>300	200	150 200 for pulverised lignite combustion

Exceptions: Plants with a total rated thermal input under 500 MW that were granted a permit, or had submitted an application for one, before 27 November 2002 and were operating prior to 27 November 2003 can meet a limit of 450 mg/Nm³, provided they do not operate for more than 1500 hours as a rolling average over 5 years.

Plants with a total rated thermal input over 500 MW that were granted a permit before 1 July 1987 can meet a limit of 450 mg/Nm³, provided they do not operate for more than 1500 hours as a rolling average over 5 years.

General notes:

1. 'Existing plant' means any combustion plant for which the application for a construction and/or operation permit was granted before 7 January 2013, or the operator had submitted a complete application for a permit before this date, provided the plant was put into operation no later than 7 January 2014.
2. Existing plants that were granted an exemption under Article 4(4) of the Large Combustion Plant Directive (LCPD) 2001/80/EC, which are in operation after 1 January 2016, will have to meet the emission limits for new plants.
3. 'New plants' are plants not covered by the existing plants definition, such as those that entered into operation after 7 January 2014.
4. All the above emission limit values are expressed at 0°C, 101.3 kPa, on a dry basis, and with 6% of O₂ in the flue gas.

This paper reflects the IEA CCC understanding of the relevant legislation and is not a substitute for the official version. The IEA CCC does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this paper and accepts no responsibility for any consequences of their use.

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