



# **Implementation of the Regional Plan on reduction inputs of mercury in the framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol in Spain**

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>REQUIREMENT</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Regional Plan on mercury</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMPLIANCE</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ACTIVITIES AND COMMENTS</b></p>
<p>1-<b>prohibit</b> installation of <b>new Chlor alkali</b> plants using mercury cells with immediate effect.</p> <p>2- <b>prohibit</b> installation of <b>vinyl chloride monomer production</b> plants using mercury as a catalyst with immediate effect.</p> <p>3- ensure that the <b>releases</b> of mercury from the activity of Chlor alkali plants shall <b>cease by 2020</b> at the latest and:</p> <p>i) environmentally <b>sound management</b> of <b>metallic mercury</b> from the decommissioned plants, including the prohibition of its re-entry into the market.</p> <p>ii) total <b>releases of mercury</b> (to air, water and products) from existing Chlor-alkali plants are <b>progressively reduced</b> until their final cessation with the view not to exceed 1.0g per metric tonne of installed chlorine production capacity in each plant. Air emissions should not exceed 0.9g per metric tonne of installed chlorine production capacity in each plant.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In progress</b></p>	<p>1.- No new Hg cell plants could be permitted</p> <p>2.- Just VCM mercury free Plants in Spain</p> <p>3.- Existing Hg Chlor-Alkali plants in Spain (2012): 7 plants; the closure of one of them in progress (2014).</p> <p>The Voluntary Agreement signed between the Spanish Chlor-alkali sector and the Environmental Administration reflects, among others, the compromise of the sector for which the mercury technology in Spain will not be working beyond 2020.</p> <p>i) Regulation EC/1102/2008.- Export ban of metallic mercury and certain mercury compounds and mixtures, and safe storage of metallic mercury. Recommendation 2009/39/CE on safe storage of mercury no longer used in Chlor-Alkali Industry. Directive 2011/97/EU amending Directive 1999/31/EC as regards specific criteria for the storage of metallic mercury considered as waste.</p> <p>ii) Limit values for releases of mercury from existing Chlor-alkali plants are also reflected in the Voluntary Agreement and are consistent with the limits in the Plan.</p>

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<p>Parties shall adopt by 2019 National ELVs for Mercury emissions from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Chemical industries using Mercury catalysts</li> <li>-Non-ferrous metal industry</li> <li>-Batteries industry</li> <li>-Waste Treatment Facilities</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In progress</b></p>	<p>EU framework: Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control, IPPC Directive 1996...2008, and Directive 2010/75/CE on Industrial Emissions.</p> <p>Transposition in Spain so far:</p> <p>Law 16/2002 IPPC Environmental Permits</p> <p>Law 34/2007 of air quality and atmospheric protection</p> <p>Royal Decree 100/2011 which updates the list of activities potentially polluting the atmosphere.</p> <p>ELVs for those industrial sectors will be updated or developed.</p> <p>Directive 2006/66/EC on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators</p>
<p>Parties shall adopt National ELVs for Mercury emissions from incineration plants as follows:</p> <p>Waste gas 0.05 mg/ Nm<sup>3</sup></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OK</b></p>	<p>Directive 2000/76 on Waste Incineration</p> <p>Heavy Metals Protocol UNECE</p>

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<p>Parties shall <b>neither open new mines nor re-open old mercury mining sites.</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OK</b></p>	<p><i>European Strategy Concerning Mercury (2005)</i></p>
<p>Parties shall identify existing <b>sites</b> which have been <b>historically contaminated</b> with mercury including at least the old mines and decommissioned Chlor alkali plants, and to take, with regard to these sites, environmentally sound management measures such as safety works, use restrictions or decontamination</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In progress</b></p>	<p>Royal Decree 9/2005 establishes the relationship between potentially soil polluting activities and criteria and standards to identify contaminated soils.</p> <p><i>Almadén, historically contaminated area, is already recovered.</i></p> <p>Law 22/2011 of waste and contaminated soil also would include the operating principles of the Plan.</p>
<p>Parties shall take appropriate <b>measures</b> to isolate and <b>manage mercury containing wastes</b> to <b>avoid potential contamination</b> to air, soil or water</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In progress</b></p>	<p>Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC Landfill Directive 1999/31/EC Decision 2003/33/EC on Waste Acceptance Criteria</p>