

[Abstracts](#)

Innovations in the Dutch environmental policy for the industry target group

Peter S. Hofman & Geerten J.I. Schrama
Center for Clean Technology and Environmental Policy
University of Twente
P.O. Box 217
NL 7500 AE Enschede
The Netherlands
Tel: +31-53-4894541/3208 Fax: +31-53-4894850
E-mail: p.s.hofman@cstm.utwente.nl / g.j.i.schrama@cstm.utwente.nl

Abstract

Policies regarding the environmental behaviour of industry have changed drastically over the last decades in most industrialised countries. Some features of these changes are the move from regulations of the command and control type to more consensual or negotiated types of regulation, such as voluntary agreements. This is accompanied by the shift from direct regulation to regulation making use of indirect steering models, for example through different actors in a policy network; and the change from end of pipe oriented policies towards prevention oriented policies. Furthermore, in the Dutch environmental policy system target groups have become an important focus of environmental policy making. It is expected that through consensual approaches target groups are better able to cost effectively progress towards more environment friendly behaviour. This paper critically evaluates these innovations in Dutch environmental policy. We assess the potential of these policies for diffusing available technologies throughout industries and the potential for inducing the kind of innovations deemed necessary for sustainable development.

July 1999
DRAFT, Do not cite without permission from authors