



Practical use of the Guidelines on best available techniques and provisional guidance on best environmental practices

Case study:

Cement kilns firing hazardous waste

Your Country is a Party to several multilateral environmental treaties, including Basel and Stockholm conventions and the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The national environment protection agency has been tasked to develop and gradually implement a general waste management programme that takes into account all waste categories and the current national situation. The programme should be guided by the principles of waste management hierarchy (prevent, reduce, reuse, recycle, recovery, incineration and disposal).

Open burning of waste, including plastics and used car tires, has been identified as the priority source of unintentionally produced POPs in the country and at the same time it is currently the mostly used practice for waste management. The tires are burned to recover either the iron inside, or to heat large stones in order to crush them as raw material for building construction. No facility for destruction of hazardous waste such as used solvents, used oil, used tires etc. is available in the country. At the same time the country has a large cement production sector. Cement is produced in two cement kilns relying mostly on imported fossil fuels, since the country has limited resources of primary energy.

Questions

As an advisor to the national environment protection agency, what measures would you recommend should be considered in the waste management programme to dispose of high-calorific waste such as plastics, used tires, solvents, waste oil and agricultural residues?

The list of activities could include:

- BAT&BEP and any related actions (e.g. assessment of possible amount of high calorific waste generated) contributing to their implementation
- Possible time-frame of implementation
- Main stakeholders to be involved