

EN
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Answer given by Mr Hoekstra
on behalf of the European Commission
(10.10.2025)

It is not possible at this stage to appraise the consequences of the mentioned extension in time as the actual eventual use for energy production capacity reserve is not stated. In relation to emissions of pollutants from the Brindisi plant, they are regulated by the Industrial Emissions Directive¹, as well as by the applicable Best Available Techniques Conclusions².

This said, the Commission monitors the progress of all Member States, including Italy, towards the 2030 target, including through the annually revised Climate Action Progress Report. In the case of Italy, the Commission has issued specific observations in its National Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) in order to accelerate the energy transition of the Member State, and has called for a faster roll-out of renewable energy sources in Italy's 2025 Country Specific Recommendations.

Power plants - such as the one mentioned - fall under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS); the total amount of ETS emission allowances decreases annually by 4.3% until 2027, thus ensuring the decarbonisation of the sectors subject to ETS as a whole. The EU ETS cap is set to bring emissions down by 62% by 2030 compared to 2005 levels emissions.

The Commission closely monitors the implementation of the Ambient Air Quality Directives³. On 10 November 2020, the Court of Justice of the European Union ruled⁴ that Italy has breached the Directive because of systematic exceedances of the limit values for PM₁₀ and because it did not adopt appropriate measures to keep the exceedance period as short as possible. The Brindisi plant is part of air quality zone IT1613 *Area Industriale* and part of this infringement case.

¹ OJ L, 2024/1785, 15.7.2024, Directive (EU) 2024/1785 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 April 2024 amending Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control) and Council Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste.

² OJ L 469, 30.12.2021, pp. 1–81 Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/2326 of 30 November 2021 establishing best available techniques (BAT) conclusions, under Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, for large combustion plants (notified under document C (2021) 8580.

³ Directive 2004/107/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2004 relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air, OJ L 23, 26.1.2005, p. 3–16; Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe, OJ L 152, 11.6.2008, p. 1–44.

⁴ Case C-644/18: <http://curia.europa.eu/juris/documents.jsf?num=C-644/18>.