

EN
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Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.4.2026)

The omnibus package¹ aims to reduce administrative burdens and reporting obligations while streamlining environmental procedures. It does not seek to affect the environmental objectives of the underlying legislation.

The Commission proposal provides² that certain projects in strategic sectors or categories shall be considered to be of public interest and may be considered to have an overriding public interest and to serve public health and safety³. Member States may restrict this application to certain territories, types of technology or projects with certain technical characteristics. Competent authorities will need to assess projects on a case-by-case basis to consider their ‘overriding’ public interest and the absence of alternative solutions.

Regarding the Industrial Emissions Directive⁴, its core elements remain unchanged, with Commission proposals focusing on simplification without compromising its objectives. The Substances of Concern in articles or in Products (SCIP) database has been considered ineffective and costly, as waste operators struggle with its complex information requirements. Regulation (EU) 2025/2455⁵ (One Substance One Assessment) introduces the Common Data Platform on Chemicals, which will incorporate data from the SCIP database.

Regarding the revision of the Water Framework Directive⁶, in line with the Better Regulation Guidelines⁷, the Commission will conduct a proportionate impact assessment and consultation process ensuring that proposals are evidence-based. A call for evidence has been launched⁸.

¹ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/simplification-administrative-burdens-environmental-legislation_en.

² Under Article 14 and the toolbox for strategic sectors or categories in the Annex to the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on speeding-up environmental assessment, COM(2025) 984 final, 2025/0391 (COD).

³ For the purposes of Article 4(7) of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC, Article 9(1), point (a), of the Birds Directive 2009/147/EC, and Articles 6(4) and 16(1) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.

⁴ Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 on industrial and livestock rearing emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control) (Recast), OJ L 334, 17.12.2010, p. 17–119, as amended by Directive (EU) 2024/1785 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 April 2024 OJ L, 15.7.2024.

⁵ Regulation (EU) 2025/2455 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 November 2025 establishing a common data platform on chemicals, laying down rules to ensure that the data contained in it are findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable and establishing a monitoring and outlook framework for chemicals, OJ L, 2025/2455, 12.12.2025.

⁶ Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy, OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1–73, as amended by Commission Directive 2014/101/EU of 30 October 2014, OJ L 311, 31.10.2014, p. 32–35.

⁷ https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/better-regulation/better-regulation-guidelines-and-toolbox_en.

⁸ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/17034-EU-water-policy-targeted-revision-of-the-Water-Framework-Directive_en.