



GREENPEACE



Brussels, 5 October 2004

Mr. Libor Ambrozek,
Minister
Ministry of Environment
Vrsovicka 65
100 10 Prague 10
Czech Republic

Czech national allocation plan and climate policy

Dear Minister,

European environmental groups are closely monitoring the developments of individual countries' national allocation plans (NAPs) for the EU Emissions Trading System. With CO₂ emissions higher than 12 tonnes per capita, the Czech Republic is one of the worst climate polluters in the enlarged EU. Your government's policy is, therefore, of understandable priority interest for all the interested parties involved in the debate.

We believe that it is one of your government's key environmental responsibilities to take action to reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions.

In this context we are disappointed with your Ministry's draft allocation plan as submitted to the cabinet. With historical emissions in the relevant sectors of 89 million tonnes, it proposes 89,5 million as the basic allocation and 99,7 million as the total possible allocation including early action, CHP bonuses and other reserves. In fact, the plan allows for an increase instead of a reduction of carbon dioxide emissions. This is unacceptable given the already high emission levels of the Czech Republic. The high carbon intensity indicates a significant scope for energy savings and fuel switches.

A price signal could bring efficiency increases that will make Czech industry more competitive. Seeing as your national climate policy projects a continuous decline in greenhouse gas emissions until 2020 this is already acknowledged in official Czech policy, in contrast to the increase suggested by the NAP.

We would have expected your government to use this opportunity to put in place inexpensive yet effective measures to cut emissions. Despite the debates within the Czech government

over the total allocation, we are concerned that your Ministry has failed to even propose any emissions reduction.

As the directors of major European environmental organisations we urge you to make the Czech Republic's currently high greenhouse gas emissions one of your key priorities, and to come forward with effective measures to cut pollution.

Yours sincerely,

Karla Schoeters
Director Climate Action Network Europe

On behalf of:
John Hontelez
Secretary General European Environmental Bureau

Martin Rocholl
Director Friends of the Earth Europe

Jorgo Riss
Director Greenpeace European Unit

Stephan Singer
Head of European Climate and Energy Policy Unit, WWF European Policy Office