



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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Council gives green light to Commission regulation concerning greenhouse gas emission allowances to be auctioned in 2013- 2020

The Council today decided¹ not to oppose the adoption of a Commission regulation amending Regulation No 1031/2010 in particular to determine the volumes of greenhouse gas emission allowances to be auctioned in 2013-2020 ("back-loading") ([5305/14](#), [5832/14](#)).

The measure will enable the Commission to delay the auctioning of 900 million allowances in the third trading period of the EU's emissions trading system (EU ETS) to address the surplus of emission allowances that has built up in the EU ETS, mainly as a result of the economic crisis.

The Commission regulation is subject to the so-called regulatory procedure with scrutiny. This means that now that the Council has not objected and the European Parliament decided not to oppose it on 6 February 2014, the Commission may adopt the regulation.

The Commission regulation follows the adoption by the Council on 16 December 2013 of a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending the EU ETS directive. See press release [17845/13](#).

¹ The decision was taken without discussion at a meeting of the Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council.

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