

## Simplification of administrative burden in environmental legislation

Public consultation – 5 May 2026

### AECC input on datacentre back-up power

The Association for Emissions Control and Climate (AECC) welcomes the Commission's commitment to reduce the administrative burden on companies and public authorities in the European Union with the publication of the Environmental Omnibus.

AECC however considers it essential that simplification does not lead to a weakening of environmental protection or undermining of the EU's air-quality targets and climate objectives. AECC would like to specifically comment on the targeted proposal to simplify requirements for back-up generators under the Medium Combustion Plant Directive (MCPD). AECC supports the proposed reduction in monitoring frequency for back-up generators because it is linked to complying with NRMM Stage V emission limits for generator sets (category NRG). AECC welcomes such proportionate and technically justified simplification when emissions compliance with a standard is present. Because such emission compliance is lacking for the back-up generators in the Medium Combustion Plant Directive (MCPD) in general.



Source: "Internet, un géant très vulnérable" (26:10-26:43), arte, 2025

AECC considers it important to note that NRMM Stage V emission requirements are not identical across all engine categories. The Stage V NRG requirements for HC and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions require application of an oxidation and deNO<sub>x</sub> catalyst, but it does not include a particle number (PN) limit. This is in contrast to the main Stage V category NRE. As a result, the engine systems are not expected to be equipped with a particulate filter, resulting in too high particulate emissions.

As back-up generators are increasingly deployed near populated centres, AECC believes it is appropriate that these regulatory differences are acknowledged and reassessed. AECC therefore looks forward to the publication of the European Commission report on In-Service Monitoring of Stage V machines, which is expected soon as the deadline was originally set at 31 December 2025. This report will be a basis to assess the effectiveness of existing regulatory frameworks on non-road and engines.

Finally, AECC looks forward to the upcoming review of the MCPD.

AECC is committed to contribute to both review processes.