



European Union Network for the
Implementation and Enforcement
of Environmental Law

Nature Protection in permitting and inspection of industrial installations

Implementation of Article 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive - quarries and open cast mining



Introduction

The Habitats Directive forms the cornerstone of Europe's nature conservation policy. This IMPEL project explores how European countries apply the legal disposition Article 6(3) in practice, specifically on the non-energy extractive industry (NEEI) activities of quarries and open cast mining.

Background

In 2013 IMPEL identified the need for more information concerning the implementation of the **Habitats Directive** (HD) - namely the application of Article 6, Part. 3. The project is entitled "Nature protection in permitting and inspection", and over the course of several years, has focused on a number of regulated industries.

Article 6(3) states that any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a site of Community importance but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to **appropriate assessment**. It also states that such plan or project can be approved only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned.

TARGET GROUP

- Public Authorities
- Other interested parties on the implementation of Nature Protection Legislation

EU LEGISLATION

- Habitats Directive
- Birds Directive

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Key points

This project aims to share and compare practices and experiences, define common understandings, raise the competences of the experts involved and contribute towards further knowledge in this thematic area. The final report will be available for all interested parties through the IMPEL website.

This report will cover specific themes within NEEI in the EU, namely:

- the potential impacts of NEEI on nature and wildlife;
- the importance of strategic planning and management plans;
- the criteria for assessment of significance used on screening and appropriate assessment of NEEI plans and projects in accordance with the HD, permitting, monitoring, inspection and restoration/rehabilitation after exploration.



LINKS

- [IMPEL Project website](#)
- [Previous projects on Nature protection in permitting and inspection of industrial installations](#)

KEY WORDS

- Nature protection
- Permitting
- Inspection
- Quarries and open cast mining
- NEEI: non-energy extractive industry