

CZECH LAW IN AIR QUALITY PROTECTION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NEW CLEAN AIR ACT No. 86/2002 Coll.

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Abstract

The paper deals with the basic trends of Czech law in air quality protection, drawn by accession of the Czech Republic to the European Union. The Clean Air Act No. 86/2002 Coll., together with the consequent Regulations, is compared to former legislative tools, focusing on changes in air pollution limits and introduction of national emission ceilings.

KEY WORDS: air quality protection, law, Czech Republic, European Union, air pollution limits, emission ceilings

1. INTRODUCTION

Ambient air quality has undergone significant changes due to increasing industrial production, motorised transportation and growing population. Individual economic interests do not usually lead by themselves to reduction in air pollution, but vice versa. Thus, air quality protection must be anchored in the state legislation.

Most developed countries passed the first laws regulating air pollution in the latter half of the twentieth century. The oldest *Clean Air Act* in Great Britain dated back to 1956. It was widely understood as a reaction to disastrous smog situations in London. The Swedish *Environmental Protection Act* was passed in 1969, and the federal *Clean Air Act* originated in the U.S.A. in 1970. The member states of the European Communities started harmonising law in air quality control by means of introducing a set of directives into their national legislation. Accession of the Czech Republic to the European Union brought Czech law to the same task.

2. CZECH LAW IN AIR QUALITY PROTECTION IN THE PERIOD 1966–2003

2.1. Methods and data

The Clean Air Act No. 86/2002 Coll. was compared to Czech law on air quality control formerly in force. A more detailed analysis focuses on the differences between the current Act and the set of law regulations passed in the 1990s.

Most changes incorporated into the new Act originated in the directives on air quality control passed by the member states of the European Union. Therefore, individual parts of the Czech Clean Air Act and the consequent Regulations were compared to relevant Directives of the Commission.

Table 2.3. (On national emission ceilings) was elaborated using data taken over from the Treaty on Accession of the ten new member states to the European Union (2003). Supplementary data were required in order to derive values indexed by area and population. Areas of the involved states were taken from *Velký atlas světa* (Kartografie, 2002), population numbers from the CIA World Factbook (2003).

The bar graphs showing annual emissions of SO₂ and NO_x were created using data from the Register of emissions and air pollution sources, published in Czech statistical yearbooks in the years 1994–2003.

2.2. Evolution of Czech law in air quality protection in the period 1966–2001

The first, yet only a brief claim on the creation and protection of healthy living conditions by means of air quality control appeared in the *Act No. 20/1966 Coll. on the Care of the People's Health*. A separate law aiming to fit the claim was passed as the *Act No. 35/1967 Coll. on Measures against Air Pollution*. It was a restrictive tool, setting obligatory fees to be paid by large polluters for certain amounts of emissions. However, the fees were set too low. In many cases, companies decided to pay rather than reduce emissions, since it was

economical to involve the fees into operational costs. The law did not result in any significant decrease in air pollution.

The Act No. 35/1967 Coll. was repealed by the Act No. 309/1991 Coll. on the Protection of Ambient Air from Pollutants (the Clean Air Act). It was complemented by the Act No. 389/1991 Coll. on the State Administration in Air Quality Control and Fees for Polluting Ambient Air. Both acts were reviewed and amended during the 1990s, reflecting an ongoing progress of Czech legislation towards more strict claims on air quality and protection of the environment.

Ozone depletion became a global problem, inducing international conventions. The Czech Republic joined the effort at ozone layer conservation by passing the Act No. 211/1993 Coll. on Prohibition of Production, Import and Use of Substances and Products Containing Substances Depleting the Earth's Ozone Layer. Two years later it was replaced by the Act No. 86/1995 Coll. on the Protection of the Earth's Ozone Layer.

A Decree of October 1, 1991 to Act No. 309/1991 passed by the Federal Committee for the Environment (published in Volume 84/1991 Coll.) contained a particular list of observed pollutants, categorisation of emission sources, emission limits and air pollution limits. It also contained recommended specific air pollution limits for announcing air quality regulations.

The Act No. 309/1991 Coll. defined categories of emission sources based on the structure of the Register of Emissions and Air Pollution Sources (Czech abbr. REZZO). The Register had been created during the 1970s. Since the beginning of 1980s it has been collecting spatially organised data on emissions from air pollution sources, sorted into four categories according to their nominal output. Additive information represents data on fuels and technologies used.

The Act No. 309/1991 also defined terminology of air pollution limits and ordered to proclaim concrete limit values by regulations of the Ministry of the Environment. Duties of operators of air pollution sources were specified; authorisation and duties of air quality control bodies were named. Rules were ordered to be set for smog regulation and warning systems in order to avoid serious pollution of ambient air.

The Act No. 211/1993 Coll. and its follow-on No. 86/1995 Coll. on the Protection of the Earth's Ozone Layer set general conditions concerning production, import and sale of substances that deplete or imperil the Earth's ozone layer. A concrete list of prohibited substances was

included in both of the acts. Thus the Czech Republic redeemed its pledge given by signing the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (1985) and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (1987).

In 1998, negotiations on the accession of the Czech Republic to the European Union began, and Czech law started to accept the legislation of the EU (the so-called *acquis communautaire*). A new Clean Air Act was needed at once.

2.3. The Clean Air Act No. 86/2002 Coll. and the consequent Regulations in brief

The Act No. 86/2002 Coll. on Air Quality Protection and on Amendments to the Related Legislation (the Clean Air Act) was passed on February 14, 2002. Its main feature is the integration of the legislative tools formerly in force into one consistent act. The generally designed tools are given their definite shape by a set of five Government Decrees and four Regulations of the Ministry of the Environment, containing particular lists of pollutants, limit values and other air quality control tools. These consequent rules may be updated without amending the Act itself, which serves as a framework tool.

The Clean Air Act No. 86/2002 Coll. is more comprehensive and detailed than the former Act No. 309/1991. The new law not only sets regulations to avoid air pollution, but it also includes legislative tools for the reduction of emissions of substances that affect the Earth's climatic system. Furthermore, a claim for reduction of pollution of the atmosphere by artificial light is added, though the law does not specify this claim into particular methods or tools.

Among the **basic definitions** (Head I), a new term *emission ceiling* is introduced as the highest allowable total emission of a pollutant, expressed in units of mass per one year from all air pollution sources within a given area. Another new term, *margin of tolerance*, is defined as the percentage or fraction of the limit value by which this value may be exceeded. Also defined are the terms like *odorous substance*, *volatile organic compound*, *the best available technology* or *light pollution*.

Head II deals with comprehensive specifications of legislative tools for air quality protection. At first, **sources of air pollution** are divided into two groups: stationary and mobile. The stationary sources are then classified into combustion sources, waste incineration plants and other stationary sources. Within the class of combustion sources,

the categories according to the Register of Emissions and Air Pollution Sources are preserved. In the category of large air pollution sources (REZZO 1), a new additional subcategory of “very large combustion sources” is defined, containing sources with nominal input of 50 MW or higher, regardless of what the nominal output is. Other combustion sources with nominal output exceeding 5 MW are called as “large combustion sources” again. The new additional subcategory is intended to recognise very large sources for application of certain EU directives (e. g. the Council Directive 88/609/EEC on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from large combustion plants).

The allowable level of polluting the ambient air is defined by *emission limits*, which are given as ‘general’ and ‘specific’ for the stationary sources. *Emission ceilings* must be set, and *reduction objectives* are intended to meet the emission ceilings before a specified date. *Emission reduction programmes* are required for implementation on national, regional and local level.

The allowable level of air pollution is determined by *air pollution limits* for the individual pollutants, together with the *margins of tolerance* and the *maximum number of exceedances*. It is required for the air pollution limit not to be exceeded by more than the margin of tolerance and not in more cases than permitted. For ground-level ozone, *target limit values* and *long term objectives* are required to be set.

The Act requires that **regions with lowered air quality** are delimited and that programmes for the improvement of air quality are elaborated for these regions. Similarly to the Act No. 309/1991, the term **smog situation** is defined. It is also required that a *smog warning and regulation system* is prepared for each region with lowered air quality. The new Clean Air Act also requires that a Regulation is issued on the allowable level of odour nuisance, including given methods of odour nuisance assessment.

The following paragraphs of Head II specify the duties of operators of air pollution sources, conditions for the authorisation of persons to measurement of emissions, air pollution levels, combustion source efficiency, operation of waste incineration plants, and elaborating dispersion studies and expertises. Finally, conditions of waste incineration are given and obligatory payments for polluting the air are set.

Head III is a follow up of the former Act No. 86/1995 Coll., setting measures for the protection of the Earth’s ozone layer.

Head IV, concerning the protection of the Earth’s climatic system, requires a *national programme on the moderation of climate change* to be elaborated, setting emission ceilings and reduction objectives for the appropriate substances.

The following parts of the Clean Air Act set a legislative framework for the public access on information about air quality, the rules of remedies and sanctions, and execution of state administration by individual authorities and bodies.

The Act No. 86/2002 Coll. is conceptually derived from Czech laws on air quality control passed during the 1990s. Most of the new elements were transposed from EU directives now in force, especially from the framework *Council Directive 96/62/EC on Ambient Air Quality Assessment and Management*. Four daughter directives on specified pollutants follow this framework directive. In a similar way, the new Czech Clean Air Act is put into particular shape by the following measures:

Government Decree No. **350/2002** Coll., fixing air pollution limits and the terms and conditions for the monitoring, assessment, evaluation and control of air quality;

Government Decree No. **351/2002** Coll., fixing mandatory emission ceilings for certain air pollutants and manner of preparation and execution of emission inventory and emission projections (later amended by the Government Decree No. 417/2003 Coll.)

Government Decree No. **352/2002** Coll., fixing emission limits and other terms and conditions for the operation of combustion stationary sources of air pollution;

Government Decree No. **353/2002** Coll., fixing emission limits and other terms and conditions for the operation of other stationary sources of air pollution;

Government Decree No. **354/2002** Coll., fixing emission limits and other terms and conditions for the incineration of waste;

Regulation of the Ministry of the Environment No. **355/2002** Coll., fixing emission limits and other terms and conditions for the operation of other stationary air pollution sources emitting volatile organic compounds from processes applying organic solvents and from the storage and distribution of petrol;

Regulation of the Ministry of the Environment No. **356/2002** Coll., appointing a list of pollutants, general emission limits, the method used to forward

messages and information, the method used to establish quantities of pollutants discharged, the darkness of smoke, permissible levels of odour nuisance and intensity, terms and conditions for the authorisation of persons, requirements regarding the keeping of operating records on air pollution sources, and conditions for the application of thereof;

Regulation of the Ministry of the Environment No. **357/2002** Coll., establishing requirements and standards for the fuels quality in order to protect the air quality;

Regulation of the Ministry of the Environment No. **358/2002** Coll., establishing conditions for the protection of the ozone layer of the Earth.

2.4. Air pollution limits

Tables 2.1 and 2.2 show air pollution limits fixed by the Government Decree No. 350/2002 Coll. in comparison with the former limit values that were set by the Decree of October 1, 1991 to Act No. 309/1991, passed by the Federal Committee for the Environment.

A closer look at the limit values and additional conditions reveals that the new measures are generally more strict. Air pollution limits are newly established for ammonia, benzene, benzo(a)pyrene, arsenic, nickel and mercury. The observation period for short-term concentration limits has changed from 30 minutes to 1 hour. Suspended particulate matter is observed as PM₁₀ instead of the former SPM measurement and the new Decree no longer appoints a combined limit value for sulphur dioxide and particulate matter.

It is not required to fit the new limit values immediately. A step by step process of reduction in air pollution is implied instead, using the method of a linear decrease of the so-called margins of tolerance. The idea was transposed straight from EU directives. The margins of tolerance decrease annually by a certain constant fraction, finally reaching zero until a specified date. For most pollutants the limit values must be met until January 1, 2005. For nitrogen dioxide, benzene, arsenic, nickel, benzo(a)pyrene and ozone the limit values shall be attained by January 1, 2010.

Besides air pollution limits fixed in order to protect human health, another group of limit values is established for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems. These limit values must be kept within areas of national parks and protected landscape

regions, in all territories higher than 800 m a. s. l. and also in other selected areas of natural forests, listed annually in the Bulletin of the Ministry of the Environment.

A separate limit value for the deposition of particulate matter has been fixed in order to protect human health. It is equal to a total of 12,5 g m⁻² per month.

2.5. Emission ceilings

The Government Decree No. 351/2002 Coll. establishes mandatory emission ceilings for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds and ammonia. The ceilings for the whole territory of the Czech Republic must be attained in 2010 at latest. The national emission ceilings are further specified into recommended values of regional emission ceilings (for the 14 regions matching NUTS 3).

The Czech Republic had pledged to attain the emission ceilings by ratifying the Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone in 1999. Meeting specified emission ceilings is also required by the Council Directive 2001/81/EC, amended by the Treaty on Accession to the European Union (Athens; April 14, 2003) so as to involve the ten new member states. By signing this Treaty, the Czech Republic agreed to attain lower emission ceilings for sulphur dioxide and ammonia than originally fixed in the Decree No. 351/2002 Coll. This change was transposed into the Czech legislation by passing an amendment through the Government Decree No. 417/2003 Coll. The emission ceiling for SO₂ was shifted from 283 kilotons per year down to 265 kilotons per year, the emission ceiling for ammonia changed from 101 kt/yr to 80 kt/yr. Regional emission ceilings were rearranged consequently.

In spite of this reduction, the national emission ceilings for the Czech Republic have been set relatively high in comparison with the West European states. Table 2.3 shows the national emission ceilings according to the Treaty on Accession to the EU, and two types of relative indices are included as national emission ceilings per unit of area (1 sq km) and national emission ceilings per Capita. Population of each state was put as the mid-year population in 2003 (CIA World Factbook), thus the index compares current obligations of the states to control emissions in the future within certain levels.

Table 2.1 Air pollution limits according to the Decree of the Federal Committee for the Environment (1991) and air pollution limits according to the Government Decree No. 350/2002 Coll.

Pollutant	Sampling Interval	Limit Value [$\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$]		Margin of Tolerance [$\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$]			Permitted Exceedance Within a Calendar Year	
		1991	2002	2002	2003	2004	1991	2002
SO₂	year	60	50	0	0	0	–	0
	24 hours	150	125	0	0	0	< 5 %	3
	1 hour	–	350	90	60	30	–	24
	30 min	500	–	–	–	–	< 5 %	–
SO₂ + SPM	24 hours	250	–	–	–	–	–	–
SPM	year	60	–	–	–	–	–	–
	24 hours	150	–	–	–	–	< 5 %	–
	30 min	500	–	–	–	–	< 5 %	–
PM₁₀	year	–	40	4.8	3.2	1.6	–	0
	24 hours	–	50	15	10	5	–	35
NO₂	year	80	40	16	14	12	–	0
	24 hours	100	–	–	–	–	< 5 %	–
	1 hour	–	200	80	70	60	–	18
	30 min	200	–	–	–	–	< 5 %	–
CO	24 hours	5 000	–	–	–	–	< 5 %	–
	30 min	10 000	–	–	–	–	< 5 %	–
	8-hr run.	–	10 000	6 000	3 300	1 700	–	0
O₃	8-hr run.	160	120	0	0	0	–	25
Pb	year	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	–	0
Cd	year	0.01	0.005	0.003	0.002	0.001	–	0
Benzene	year	–	5	5	4.375	3.75	–	0
NH₃	year	–	100	60	40	20	–	0
As	year	–	0.006	0.006	0.00525	0.0045	–	0
Ni	year	–	0.02	0.016	0.014	0.012	–	0
Hg	year	–	0.05	0	0	0	–	0
Benzo(a)pyrene	year	–	0.001	0.008	0.007	0.006	–	0

Explanations: **margin of tolerance** – a fraction of limit value, by which the limit value may be exceeded (decreases linearly in consequent years, by a specified date reaches zero); the sampling interval of a **year** – one calendar year; the sampling interval of **8-hr run.** – the maximum of eight-hour running averages updated each hour during the day; **permitted exceedance 1991** (< 5 %) – concentrations must not exceed the limit value in more than 5 % of all measurements; **permitted exceedance 2002** – maximum number of exceedances within one calendar year (for ozone, the number of exceedances within a year is derived as a 3-year average)

Table 2.2 Air pollution limit values for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems according to the Government Decree No. 350/2002 Coll.

Pollutant	Sampling Interval	Limit Value	Margin of Tolerance	Maximum Number of Exceedances Allowed within a Calendar Year
SO₂	calendar year and the winter season (Oct 1 – March 31)	20 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$	–	0
NO_x	calendar year	30 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$	–	0
O₃	AOT40 in May–July, five-year average	18 000 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ hrs	–	0

Explanations: AOT40 is the sum of the difference between hourly concentrations greater than 80 $\mu\text{g/m}^3$ (= 40 parts per billion) and 80 $\mu\text{g/m}^3$ over a given period using only the 1 hour values measured between 8:00 and 20:00 Central European Time each day.

Notice: the Decree of the Federal Committee for the Environment (1991) did not establish any limit values of air pollution for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems.

Table 2.3 National emission ceilings for SO₂, NO_x, VOC and NH₃ to be attained in the member states of the EU by the year 2010 (including the ten new member states, accessing to the EU in 2004)

country	SO ₂			NO _x			VOC			NH ₃		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Austria	39	0.47	4.76	103	1.23	12.58	159	1.90	19.42	66	0.79	8.06
Belgium	99	3.24	9.62	176	5.77	17.11	139	4.55	13.51	74	2.42	7.19
Cyprus	39	4.22	50.54	23	2.49	29.81	14	1.51	18.14	09	0.97	11.66
Czech Republic	265	3.36	25.86	286	3.63	27.90	220	2.79	21.47	80	1.01	7.81
Denmark	55	1.28	10.21	127	2.95	23.59	85	1.97	15.79	69	1.60	12.81
Estonia	100	2.21	70.99	60	1.33	42.60	49	1.08	34.79	29	0.64	20.59
Finland	110	0.33	21.19	170	0.50	32.75	130	0.38	25.04	31	0.09	5.97
France	375	0.69	6.23	810	1.49	13.46	1050	1.93	17.45	780	1.43	12.96
Germany	520	1.46	6.31	1051	2.94	12.76	995	2.79	12.08	550	1.54	6.67
Greece	523	3.96	49.03	344	2.61	32.25	261	1.98	24.47	73	0.55	6.84
Hungary	500	5.37	49.77	198	2.13	19.71	137	1.47	13.64	90	0.97	8.96
Ireland	42	0.60	10.70	65	0.92	16.56	55	0.78	14.02	116	1.65	29.56
Italy	475	1.58	8.19	990	3.29	17.07	1159	3.85	19.98	419	1.39	7.22
Latvia	101	1.56	43.00	61	0.94	25.97	136	2.10	57.90	44	0.68	18.73
Lithuania	145	2.22	40.36	110	1.68	30.62	92	1.41	25.61	84	1.29	23.38
Luxembourg	4	1.55	8.81	11	4.25	24.22	9	3.48	19.82	7	2.71	15.41
Malta	9	28.48	22.48	8	25.32	19.98	12	37.97	29.97	3	9.49	7.49
Netherlands	50	1.20	3.10	260	6.26	16.10	185	4.46	11.45	128	3.08	7.93
Poland	1397	4.47	36.17	879	2.81	22.76	800	2.56	20.71	468	1.50	12.12
Portugal	160	1.74	15.84	250	2.72	24.75	180	1.96	17.82	90	0.98	8.91
Slovakia	110	2.24	20.26	130	2.65	23.94	140	2.86	25.78	39	0.80	7.18
Slovenia	27	1.33	13.95	45	2.22	23.25	40	1.97	20.66	20	0.99	10.33
Spain	746	1.47	18.55	847	1.67	21.06	662	1.31	16.46	353	0.70	8.78
Sweden	67	0.15	7.55	148	0.33	16.67	241	0.54	27.15	57	0.13	6.42
United Kingdom	585	2.40	9.73	1167	4.78	19.42	1200	4.92	19.97	297	1.22	4.94
EU 25	6543	1.65	14.38	8319	2.09	18.29	8150	2.05	17.92	3976	1.00	8.74

Explanations: *A* – national emission ceiling (in kilotons per year); *B* – national emission ceiling per unit area (in tons per 1 sq km per year); *C* – national emission ceiling per Capita (in kilograms per person per year; mid-year population 2003)

Figure 2.1 Total SO₂ emission from sources REZZO 1–4 in the Czech Republic in the period 1990–2001 and the emission ceiling established by the Government Decree No. 417/2003 Coll.

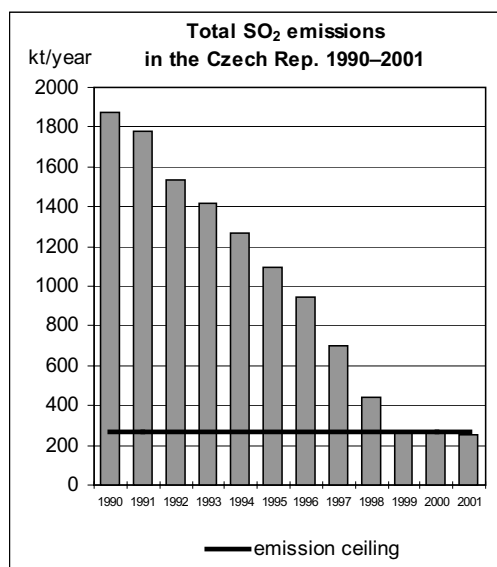
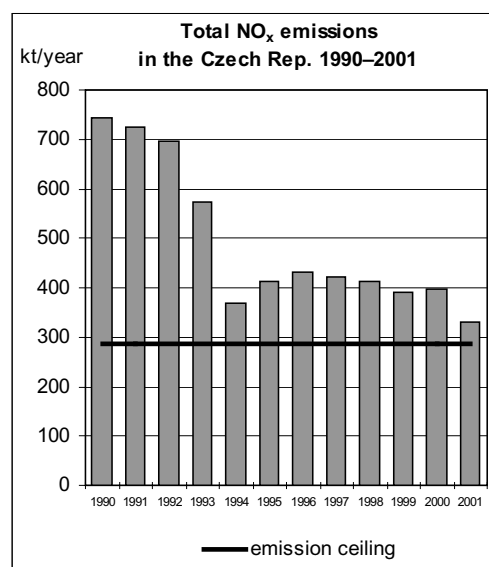


Figure 2.2 Total NO_x emission from sources REZZO 1–4 in the Czech Republic in the period 1990–2001 and the emission ceiling established by the Government Decree No. 417/2003 Coll.



When looking at the national emission ceilings and at the related indices, it is obvious that the Czech Republic is bound to attain quite generous levels of emission ceilings. As Figure 2.1 illustrates, the total emission of sulphur dioxide decreased during the 1990s from alarming amounts of pollution down to levels that are lower than the emission ceiling after reduction (265 kt/yr). However, the emission ceiling per unit area is one of the highest, overtaken by the values for Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Malta and Poland only. In case of the NO_x emission ceilings, the difference between the Czech Republic and the Western European states is not so significant, on the other hand recent levels still exceed the mandatory ceiling of 286 kt/yr.

2.5. Emission limits

Limit values for the emission of pollutants have been established by three separate Government Decrees, each of them concerning stationary combustion sources, waste incineration plants and other stationary sources respectively.

Regulation of the Ministry of the Environment No. 355/2002 Coll. deals with emissions of volatile organic compounds.

Regulation of the Ministry of the Environment No. 356/2002 Coll. contains a list of the pollutants observed, appoints the general emission limits, the method of forwarding information about air pollution, the method used to establish quantities of pollutants discharged and the authorisation of persons. The allowable darkness of smoke is set, using two distinct assessment methods. The Ringelmann chart serves for a visual comparison of plume to six levels of gray (from white to black). The Bacharach scale compares the darkness of spots resulting on a filter paper after percolating a given amount of fumes.

The ways of *odour nuisance assessment* are broadened by a method derived from the definition of the European odour unit (OUE), used in the olfactometric analysis of odour. Other methods can still be applied according to the particular situation, among them a questionnaire on odour nuisance (statistical query and assessment), odour trail measurement or statistical survey of complaints.

3. CONCLUSIONS

The Clean Air Act No. 86/2002 Coll. has integrated Czech legislation tools on air quality protection into one consistent framework. Since the Act has come into force, the current Czech law corresponds with the recent approach to air quality management in

the European Union, which the Czech Republic decided to access on May 1, 2004. It is convenient that the Act has transposed the concept of continuous air quality improvement, applying the process of an ongoing reduction in emissions, but not defining some lasting and fixed target levels. Certain emission limits and emission ceilings have been established by a set of Decrees and Regulations. They may be set as stricter in the future without necessarily amending the Act. Some of the reduction is already set, coming into force after 2005 and 2010. The Czech Republic as a member of the European Union is obliged to transpose future amendments and possible new EU directives on air quality management. A trend towards more significant reduction of the total emissions shall be expected and the national emission ceilings will almost certainly be fixed lower in the forthcoming years. Also, more substances will probably be enlisted among the observed pollutants.

4. SOUHRN

ČESKÁ PRÁVNÍ ÚPRAVA OCHRANY OVZDUŠÍ V KONTEXTU ZÁKONA Č. 86/2002 SB.

Zákon č. 86/2002 Sb. o ochraně ovzduší soustředil českou legislativu v ochraně ovzduší do jednoho souhrnného rámce a uvedl ji v soulad s aktuálním stavem právní úpravy ochrany ovzduší v Evropské unii, jejímž členem se Česká republika stává ke dni 1. května 2004. Pozitivní stránkou zákona je koncepce neustálého zlepšování kvality ovzduší, neboť hovoří o postupném snižování emisí, aniž by striktně vymezoval neměnné cílové hodnoty. Konkrétní emisní limity a emisní stropy uvedené v navazujících nařízeních a vyhláškách mohou v budoucnu podléhat zpřísnění. Některá z těchto zpřísnění po roce 2005 a 2010 jsou už dokonce naznačena. Členství v Evropské unii zavazuje Českou republiku k přejímání dalších úprav v oblasti ochrany životního prostředí, které budou orgány EU přijaty. Zejména lze v budoucnu očekávat tlak na další snižování celkových emisí zpřísněním emisních stropů a také případné rozšíření seznamu sledovaných znečišťujících látek.

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