

Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic

Ministerstvo životního prostředí

Inspection & Enforcement in the Czech Republic

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6th Compliance Conference

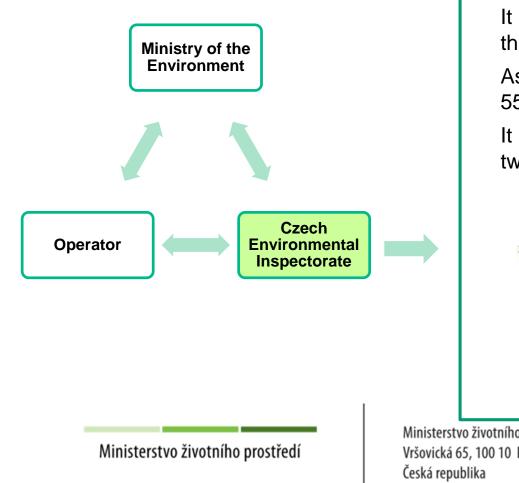
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Environmental Inspection in the Czech Republic



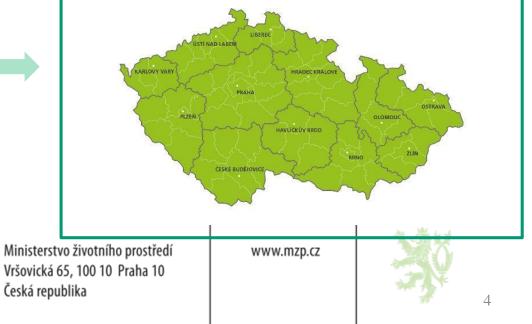
Czech Environmental Inspectorate

CEI was established in 1991

It supervises compliance with legislation in the field of the environment

As of 31 December 2014, it was employing 551 persons, including 419 inspectors.

It is divided into 10 territorial inspectorates, two branch offices and the headquarters.



Czech Environmental Inspectorate Scope of Activities

- CEI performs regular checks according to an approved plan. Installations are selected using several criteria (legislative requirements, former commitments, impact on environment)
- There are also checks on request (from the Ministry and other administrative bodies)
- Each check involve on-site visit. It usually covers one (or more) of five areas:
 - air protection (including EU ETS obligations)
 - water protection
 - waste management
 - nature protection (including the CITES)
 - forest protection

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Czech Environmental Inspectorate: inspection related to the EU ETS

- In 2014 CEI performed 289 checks related to the EU ETS (corresponding to the 85% installations included in the system)
- During regular checks inspectors follow a checklist which includes explicit obligations required by the Czech EU ETS (Climate) Act. The main covered areas:
 - Validity and the scope of the EU ETS permit
 - Notification of changes to the Ministry (incl. Changes of allocation)
 - Monitoring and reporting according to the MRR
 - Cooperation with the National Administrator of the Registry

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Drawbacks and Opportunities Role of the Ministry

- The EU ETS is only one of many areas checked by the CEI
- Inspectors are not familiar with the MRR/AVR regulations in detail
- In order to improve the inspection & enforcement in the field of MRVA the Ministry:
 - oversees the process of problem solving, it is often consulted by the CEI when information about the EU ETS is needed.
 - Once a year it supervises the witness audit carried out by the Czech Accreditation Institute
 - As a part of compliance checks it visits one installation on site per year (due to limited staff capacity no more on-site visits are feasible). Unlike inspection by CEI or verification by accredited verifier, the Ministry only checked general compliance with the MRR and CIM (free allocation related issues) so far.

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Challenges

- Should the role of the ministry be strengthened?
 - How to allocate more time and HR capacities for on-site visits?
 - What should be the scope of the on-site visits that are part of the compliance check?
- Should inspection remain within the competence of the CEI only?
 - How to improve knowledge and competence of the CEI?

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Thank you for your attention!

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