

AQ 09 (06)

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS, AND FROM THE WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT

CREMATORIA: CHANGE IN CALCULATION FOR BURDEN SHARING

It has been drawn to the attention of Defra and WAG that the 2003 baseline figure of number of cremations per year referred to in AQ1(05), while excluding cremation of fetal remains and body parts, includes cremations involving stillbirths, perinatal deaths, and deaths of infants under 5 years old.

Defra and WAG consider that these cremations should not be counted towards the 50% reduction figure in AQ1(05) because they will not give rise to mercury emissions and bearing in mind also that, typically at present, crematoria do not charge for these cremations.

Therefore, the replacement for paragraph 6.8 of PG5/2(04) which was contained in AQ1(05) is amended to read after sub-paragraph b:

“Existing crematoria should be fitted with mercury abatement to the extent necessary to ensure that 50% of all cremations* (excluding those involving stillbirths, perinatal deaths, and deaths of infants under 5 years) carried out are subject to abatement.”

*based on the Federation of British Cremation Authorities' 2003 cremation statistics.

For information, the total number of cremations in 2003 according to these statistics was 430,006. The total number of cremations involving stillbirths, perinatal deaths, and deaths of infants under 5 years in 2003 was 12,532. Therefore, the national 50% figure is now 208,737 instead of 215,003.

Defra/WAG

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