

Group 1

STATE AID

Do we need state aid for remediation of contaminated sites?

- Yes
 - Especially for small industry/enterprises with big environmental risks
 - dry cleaners and other industry using chlorinated hydrocarbons
- Possible dilemma
 - How to make sure that the enterprises are treated evenly?
 - some company makes effort and puts money to prevent contamination where the other just pollutes

The Criteria for State Aid

- Not very clear or transparent
- The allowed exceptions for polluter pays
 - principle should be able to be fully exploited
 - high risk cases
- Case by case –evaluation
 - time consuming
 - uncertain
 - gives a possibility to explain
 - hinders the of use of state aid in some cases?

The Branch Approach

- Some organized branches
 - laundries, gas stations
- Specific concepts to tackle the contamination
 - maybe even some equipment like movable treatment facilities
- Voluntary basis, agreements
- Fee
 - even shares
 - depending on the size, employees etc.
 - depending of the case
- Some state aid involved (maybe carrot money)
- Private part and public part (orphan sites)
- Same criteria, one notification

Historic Contamination

- Sites with historic contamination have no problems with state aid
- But what is historic contamination?
 - the starting point differs from country to country
 - depends on when certain laws came into force
- A definition for historic contamination in SFD?!

The Complaints

- The complaining time for State Aid approvals is very long
 - even 30 years
 - creates uncertainties
- A time frame is needed
 - 1 – 2 years?