

Case study: Lafarge's only cement plant in Slovenia, located close to Trbovlje, received its IPPC permit in 2009 to use alternative fuels to provide energy for its cement-making process. Since May 2009, Trbovlje plant has used over 14,000 tonnes of alternative fuels. Local NGO Ekokrog rejects the use of alternative fuels. In March this year, its permit to use these fuels has been suspended by the Ministry for Environment, following a judgement by the country's Administrative Court. A decision on the future process to manage this situation is expected soon.

<b>Concerns about the project</b>	<b>What is Lafarge's position?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car tyres, plastics and waste oil are particularly hazardous as burning these substances produce some of the most poisonous substances known to man.</li> <li>• Co-incineration of waste materials is the worst alternative to rid of waste</li> <li>• Use of waste impacts on performance of the product and impact on health of people using the cement</li> <li>• Government allows Trbovlje to emit levels that far exceed European standards for waste incinerators; values absurdly high and differ from standards valid and permitted in EU countries for waste incinerators.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The use of alternative fuels is proven and the plant operates to a permit consistent with European Standards for cement plants.</li> <li>• There is no impact on the performance of the product – fuels are used to provide energy in the process</li> <li>• It is used in cement plants around the world - for example, every cement plant in Germany uses over 50% alternative fuels in their fuel mix – and in a number of different industries globally, including power generation.</li> <li>• The profile of emissions remains the same whether alternative fuels are used or not. Emission levels are drawn from the composition of the raw materials used to make cement, which is established in International Standards (BREF).</li> <li>• Air quality monitoring of the local area has demonstrated that the levels of sulphur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and particulate matter (PM10s) have been at a higher level during periods when cement plant was not operating (such as at the beginning of December 2010) – likely due to increased use of domestic heating systems</li> <li>• Incineration is a different process to that of cement-making (and co-incinerating), and different standards are applied for two separate processes. Cement-making involves heating raw materials – alternative fuels help provide the energy for this process. Incineration involves the burning of the material with no manufacturing process in place. The limits set for both processes reflect the different requirements.</li> <li>• The plant has invested over €32 million in last six years to reduce its environmental footprint. As a result, a number of emissions at the plant have reduced, including oxides of nitrogen (down by 43.8%) and sulphur dioxide emissions (reduced by 86.4%)</li> </ul>

For further details on the Ekokrog position, please visit: [www.ekokrog.org](http://www.ekokrog.org)