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INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ADVANCES IN CLEANER PRODUCTION

“INTEGRATING CLEANER PRODUCTION INTO SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES”

Environmental Regulation Reform: Case Study for the Cleaner Production Fostering by CETESB

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Abstract

The establishment by the government of a set of requirements for businesses to operate in an environmentally responsible manner, generically named as "environmental regulation" has been one of the most successfully policies implemented on last century. However the evolution of social dynamics demanded reforms of the most traditional models for environmental regulation, for which various recommendations have been made internationally. Starting with a brief summary of "regulatory quality characteristics" summarized from literature, the present article examines a case study regarding the cleaner production fostering by CETESB, Sao Paulo State environmental agency. After an introduction and the methodological procedures presentation, the case study is described and the most relevant results are presented, mainly from interviews with selected key stakeholders. It is highlighted that although there has been no specific planning, many of those "characteristics" are already presented at the program, especially with regard to participation, flexibility, preventive focus and innovation. It also stressed that this presence influences the behavior of regulators and regulated, although most at those who participated directly in the activities, since there was little diffusion effect. Finally, suggestions for improvement are collected, among which the need for cleaner production consideration in the agency's strategic planning and its incorporation in the main regulatory routines, especially the environmental permitting.

Keywords: *environmental regulation; cleaner production; environmental agency; environmental public policy*

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