INTERVENTION 3

Mandating Clean Fuel, Efficiency & Emissions Standards—Large Industry

SUMMARY

For those industrial plants that have not been closed or moved, requirements to reduce emissions from large industry are established and enforced. This is the normal (but often difficult) process of reducing overall emissions from the major industrial plants.

Health benefits: Low/medium, depending on the extent to which highly polluting plants have already been closed or controlled.

Carbon benefits: Low. Efficiency and cleaner fuels will have some benefits but are unlikely to reduce carbon emissions considerably.

Costs: In principle there are very limited costs to government, apart from writing regulations. However, development and enforcement of regulations will usually require some level of additional government resources

Political Feasibility: Possible corporate pushback.

Key Players: Usually national governments, setting the requirements for industry. Larger cities will have their own requlatory and enforcement departments.

EXAMPLES

INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION MONITORING, DELHI. The Central Pollution Control Board issued directives in 2014 for highly polluting industries to install online monitoring systems, but installation has been slow. Continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations have been installed at critical locations in the city, and real-time data are available on a website (Aijaz 2018).

COAL COMBUSTION, BEIJING. A number of emissions control policies were implemented in stages since 1998 focusing on coal-fired power plants, coal-fired boilers, and residential coal use. To control pollution from coal combustion, the early measures encouraged substitution of high sulfur coal with of low sulfur coal and retrofits of coal boilers with desulfurization control. Later measures encouraged conversion from coal to natural gas, electricity, and other clean and high quality energy alternatives.

INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL, BEIJING. Incentives or subsidies were granted for high polluting enterprises that chose to close their production or to implement extensive exhaust gas treatment in their production processes. For those who chose to remain in production, differentiated fees were charged.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN INDUSTRIES, INDIA. Policies include a market-based energy efficiency trading mechanism in eight energy-intensive industrial sectors accounting for one-third of total energy consumption in the country. The mandated decrease in the specific energy consumption has led to a decline of 4 to 5% in their specific energy consumption in 2015 as compared to that in 2012.