



ASSEMBLÉE
NATIONALE

Céleste LETT
Député de la Moselle
Maire de SARREGUEMINES

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
LIBERTÉ - ÉGALITÉ - FRATERNITÉ

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Réf: CL/KK

Sarreguemines, 7th October 2015

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

As local elected representative, it is because I am convinced of the necessity to better conciliate ecology, sustainable development and economic growth, that I wish to participate in the public consultation relative to the renewal request to the exemption 29.

Recognized as strong job providers (1,600 directly and 5,000 indirectly), crystal manufacturers practice and represent a rare know-how which enriches our common cultural and economic patrimoine.

Several elements enhanced by the submitters plea in favour of French crystal manufacturers and their other European counterparts :

- The use of lead oxide as intermediate to form the new crystal glass substance allows the production of specific articles otherwise impossible to manufacture ;
- Despite about 20 years of research, no substitute to lead oxide could be find which would allow to benefit from the same properties and functions ;
- The use of electric and electronic articles with crystal items has a near to nil impact on the environment. The volume of discarded crystal articles is so low that it can be considered negligible : crystal articles are unique luxury products which are transmitted over generations and may be restored, if damaged ;
- The manufactures of Lorraine are settled down in their sites since centuries and are far from the bigjob providing areas. They therefore uniquely and vitally contribute to the local economic activity, also from a touristic point of view (cf. the Saint Louis Museum attracts over 20,000 visitors per year).

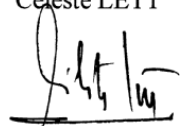
I would like to add that the volumes at stake underline the specific character of these articles, considering the number of articles usually targeted by the RoHS Directive : a few thousands at the very best for crystal articles, while marketed TV screens amount to about 5,8 millions in Europe in 2014.

I write to you also in my capacity of spokesman of workers, craftsmen and citizens whom I meet on a daily basis and who are worried of the consequences of a potential non renewal of the exemption 29.

Convinced of the solid ground of arguments which were presented to you and as a witness of the research efforts carried out during the latest 20 years to find a substitute to lead oxide, I bring my full support to the 10-years exemption request. Such an exemption would allow crystal manufacturers, also confronted to a low economic framework, to look for the future with confidence.

Yours Sincerely,

Céleste LETT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Lett', written over a horizontal line.

Député de la Moselle
Maire de Sarreguemines