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Best available techniques and the value chain perspective

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16 **Abstract**

17 During the past decades, the concept of best available techniques (BAT) has evolved as a reference point for
18 setting environmental permit conditions. As all environmental regulations, BAT-based permit regulations can
19 potentially act as a driver or as a barrier for greening global value chains and for implementation of
20 sustainable supply chain management and circular economy. Whether they will effectively act as a driver or
21 as a barrier for these, depends on if and how up- and downstream activities are considered in the
22 determination of BAT at the sector level on the one hand, and on the way BAT are implemented at the
23 installation level on the other hand. In existing methods for determination of BAT at the sector level, the
24 focus of the assessment is generally on the sector under consideration, without explicit or systematic
25 consideration of up- and downstream activities. The purpose of this paper is to investigate if and how up-
26 and downstream activities have been considered in the determination of BAT in practice, more specifically in
27 the Sevilla process for information exchange on BAT in the context of the European Industrial Emission
28 Directive. The assessment is based on a review of BAT reference documents, using a case study approach

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