

Public Acceptance of the BAT Concept: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow

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Citation: Ismailov R.A., Volosatova A.A., Guseva T.V. Public Acceptance of the BAT Concept: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow, *Kompetentnost' / Competency (Russia)*, 2023, no. 9–10, pp. 11–16. DOI: 10.24412/1993-8780-2023-9-11-16

key words

BAT concept, environmental efficiency of production, investments, environmental impact, expert assessment

The article analyzes development of the Best Available Techniques (BAT) concept in Russia. Authors demonstrate that BAT is a development category serving as the core of the state environmental industrial policy. BAT implementation provides for the enhancement of the resource and environmental efficiency of production processes. Authors note that in order to assess the BAT-related industry transformation projects, one should use the objective criteria established in the Reference Documents (BAT-related Environmental Performance and Resource Efficiency Levels, and Indicative Levels of Greenhouse Gases Emissions). The article provides information on the BAT-related investments in the environmental and technological modernization of industry. Authors demonstrate that the investments in modernization are many times higher than payments for the negative environmental impact, which corresponds to the essence of the polluter pays principle. The article considers recommendations of national standards on voluntary expert assessment and verification of the BAT implementation at industrial enterprises. Authors emphasize the role of the BAT expert society in strengthening positions of the BAT concept and its public acceptance in the Russian Federation.

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