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“INTEGRATING CLEANER PRODUCTION INTO SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES”

Environmental Regulation Reform: Case Study for Extended-Responsibility Adoption in São Paulo State Waste Policy

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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 adoption of the extended responsibility strategy at Sao Paulo State Waste Policy. 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 the case illustrated an important example of the regulatory process inversion, which brought a significant change in the regulated behavior. It is also verified that, although the program does not intentionally included those characteristics, many of them are present, mainly participation, decentralization, flexibility, and the use of multiple instruments, among others. At the end suggestions for improvement are collected, recommending that those must be accompanied to ensuring its effective adoption in the future.

Keywords: *environmental regulation; waste policy; environmental agency; environmental public policy*

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