

### **Regulation on Water Reuse: Political agreement between European Parliament and Council (1st reading agreement)**



Source: Umweltbundesamt,  
Dessau (Germany)

In May 2018 the Commission proposed legislation to address water reuse for agricultural irrigation: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on minimum requirements for water reuse, COM/2018/337 final: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52018PC0337>

Following the first reading in the European Parliament (Plenary of 12 February 2019), the two legislators Parliament and Council negotiated on achieving an early agreement. On December 2019 they arrived at an agreement, thus drastically shortening the legislative process. This political agreement clears the way for final adoption.

The new law defines minimum quality standards for reclaimed water to be used for agricultural irrigation as well as risk management measures.

To become law, the political agreement will have to be formally adopted by the Plenary of the European Parliament and by the Council. It will then be published as Regulation in the Official Journal of the European Union. The EP Environment Committee already approved the text on 21 January 2020.