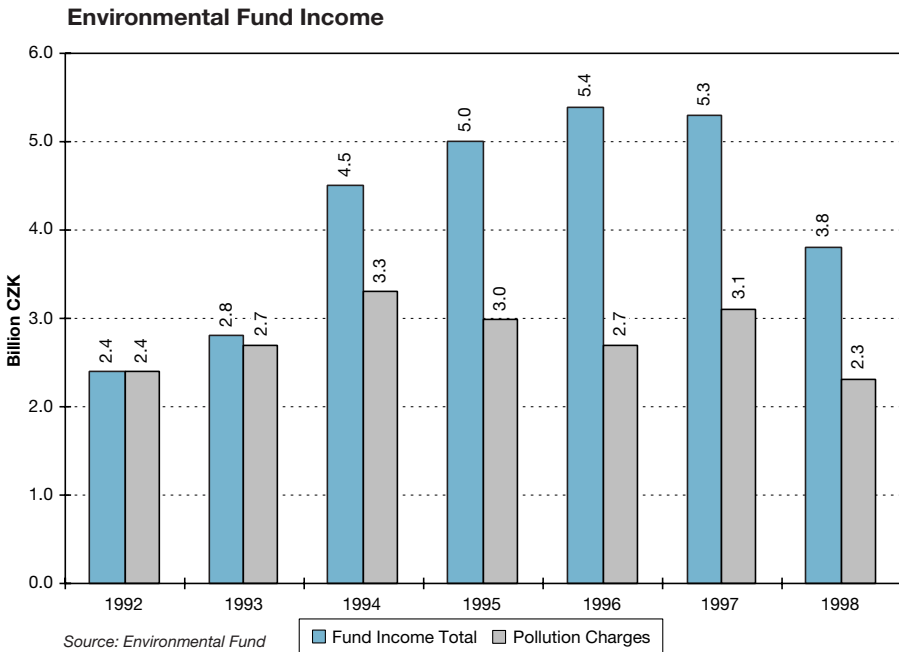


## VII. ECOLOGY

## VII.1 Environmental Legislation and the EU



According to the EU “Position Paper of the Czech Republic,” the current Czech legislation is not in the required accord with the EC standards in several areas of environmental “acquis communautaire.” Although most obligations will be met by the reference date for accession to the EU, including administrative provisions, problems remain in the areas of waste management, water quality, protection of wildlife and the environment, and industrial pollution. Summing up the problematic areas:

**A. Waste management** – Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and waste from over-packaging; the transition period to achieve target values for recycling and re-using packaging materials is proposed to last until 2005.

**B. Water quality**

– Directive 9/271/EEC on urban wastewater treatment; the transition period for the construction and activation of required waste water treatment plants for municipalities categorized by serving between

2,000 – 10,000 inhabitants is proposed to last till 2008-2010.

– Directive 91/676/EEC on the protection against water pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources; the transition period should be extended until 2006.

– Directive 76/464/EEC on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment; the transition period should be specified in the near future.

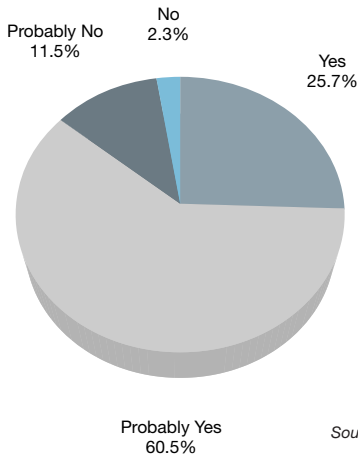
**C. Wildlife protection** – Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds and 92/43/EEC on the conservation

of natural habitats and of fauna and flora; the transition period will probably last until 2005.

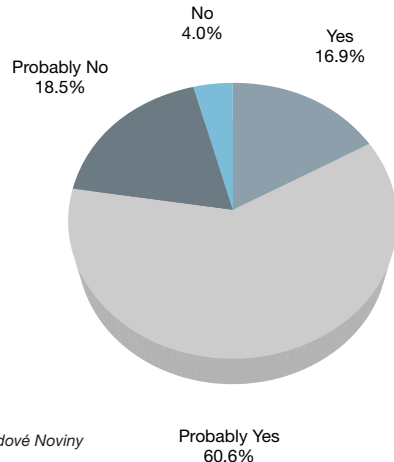
**D. Industrial pollution and risk management** – Directive 96/61/EC on integrated pollution prevention and control; the transition period for existing facilities is expected to last until 2012.

E. The Czech Republic will also request an “additional period” in accord with Articles 14 and 15 of Directive 98/83/EC on the water intended for human consumption for implementation of the limits for certain pollutants.

**Willingness to Contribute a Part of Personal Income to Ecology in 1991**



**Willingness to Contribute a Part of Personal Income to Ecology in 1999**

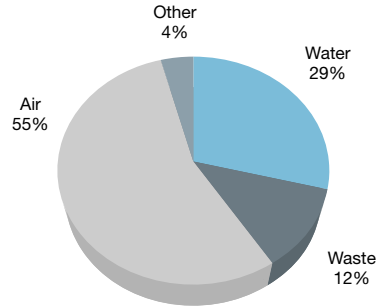


Source: Lidové Noviny

## VII.2 Wastes and Pollution

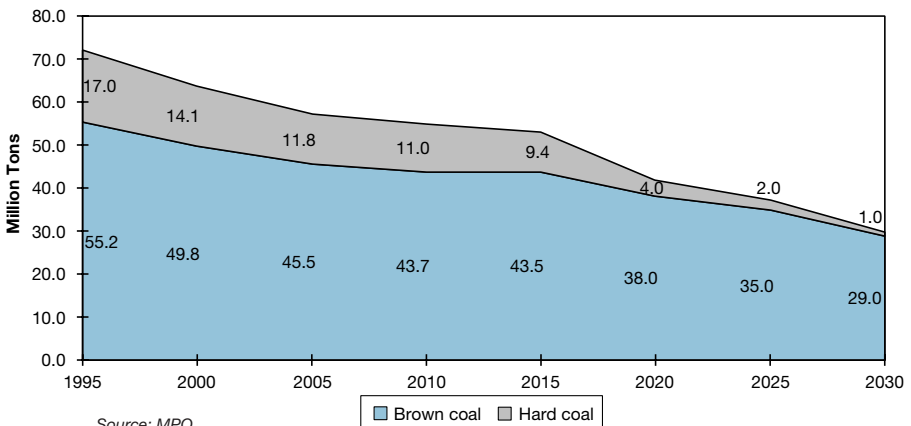
All the formally centrally planned economies of the Soviet block could be characterized by their extensive use of natural resources. Ten years after the fall of the socialist block, a significant improvement in environmental protection can be observed. Not only can the implementation of new legal standards comparable to those in the EU be observed, but huge reductions in emissions and significant improvements in environmental quality can be observed in everyday life. Just for comparison, the 1993 emission of sulfur dioxide, hydrogen oxides and carbon dioxide pollutants was 137.4, 55.6 and 14,900 kg per capita, respectively, compared to 48.3, 36.0 and 11,000 in Germany and 75.7, 81.7 and 19,800 in the USA. Major air polluters of sulfur and carbon dioxides (e.g., power plants) had a temporary exemption from emission limits until January 1999. Right now, all major polluters should utilize new technologies. Moreover, further reduction can be expected

**Composition of Investment in Environmental Protection in 1997**

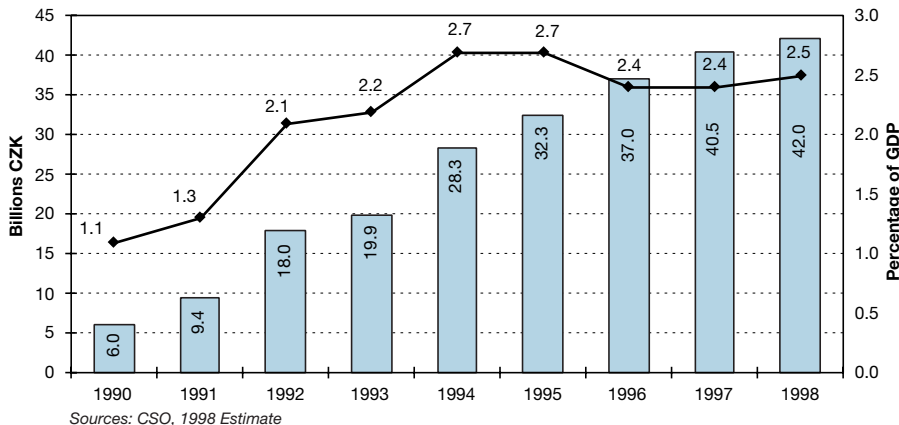


ted after the new nuclear plant near by Temelín is finished. In 1996, the nuclear power plant Dukovany produced 20 per cent of the total electricity production. The MPO estimates are that both nuclear plants would reduce the emission of carbon dioxide by 17 per cent of the total emissions. The share of nuclear energy consumption is estimated to be about 38 per cent.

**Coal Mining Prediction**



### Investment in Environmental Protection

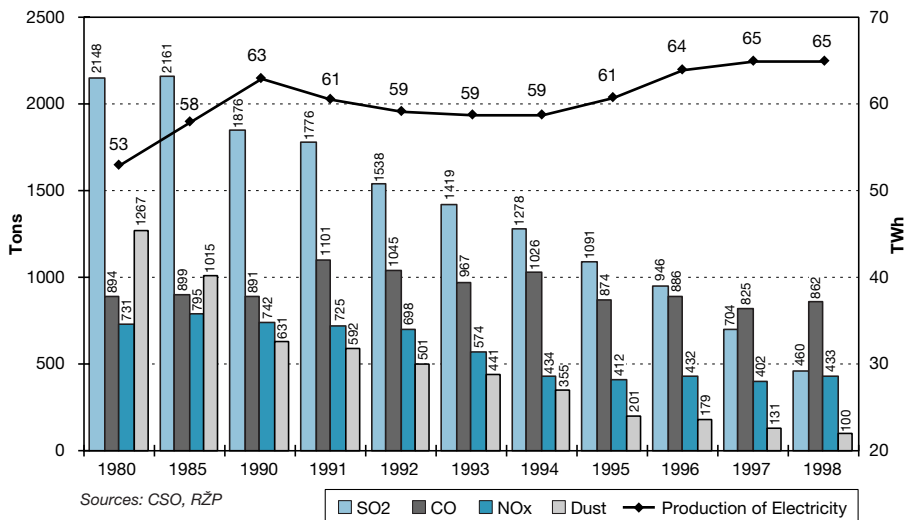


According to these predictions, coal mining should decline as is outlined in the table.

We refer to these indicators in order to demonstrate improvement in environmental quality over time. The large quantities of solid, liquid and atmospheric emissions in

the Czech Republic and former Czechoslovakia were caused by energy production (burning brown coal with a high concentration of sulfur) and by heavy industry. As emissions decrease, people are more content with the environmental situation.

### Waste and Electricity Production



### Global Cooperation

The Czech Republic cooperates in solving global issues in a multilateral context.

**Climate Change:** The Czech Republic is a very large emitter of greenhouse gases (CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>) per capita and ranks second in the OECD in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per unit of GDP. Predictions of greenhouse gases emissions in the next 10 years show either near stabilization or a decline from the past 1990 level. Such improvements would be facilitated by proper energy pricing (i.e., no cross-subsidization), a switch from coal to gas for domestic heating, heat saving procedures in residential buildings, tax reductions on environmentally friendly items and metering of energy consumption.

**Protection of the ozone layer:** The Czech Republic has adopted strong legislation to restrict the general use of the most important ozone depleting substances. It fulfilled its international commitments under the Montreal Protocol by reducing chlorofluorocarbon consumption from 5514 tons in 1986 to 566 tons in 1995 and 93 tons in 1996. Producers and importers of these pollutants must obtain a permit and must pay charges to the State Environmental Fund.

**Biological diversity:** In recent years, the Czech Republic has ratified most international conventions on environment protection, namely the Bern Convention, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, and others.

### Fines Imposed in 1998

	Number	Fine (CZK)
Air	563	29,046,500
Water	413	13,676,784
Waste	387	8,405,000
Environment	303	2,038,450
Forest	73	4,386,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,739</b>	<b>57,552,734</b>

Source: Česká inspekce životního prostředí