Carbon crashes as 2011 emissions numbers surprise analysts

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Emissions from installations in the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) fell by 2.45% in 2011, surprising analysts and leading carbon prices to fresh lows.

"It's surprising especially when you think of the German nuclear plants that were shut down, but on the other hand the macroeconomic situation of the European economy was bearish," said Maciej Gomolka, emissions trading product manager at carbon brokerage Pravda Capital in Prague, which had predicted that emissions would have dropped by less than 0.5%.

Gomolka said lower 2011 emissions implies lower demand for carbon credits and a higher surplus of EUAs in the system.

Source: <u>Carbon Finance</u>