



Subject: Waste Framework Directive – Sorting of Mixed Waste to Remove Recyclable Materials before Incineration and Landfilling

Dear Members of the ENVI Committee,

The undersigned, a broad coalition of business organisations representing all levels of their value chains and NGOs, express their support for a targeted expansion of the current proposal to revise the Waste Framework Directive (WFD). While the current WFD foresees a comprehensive revision in the future, the ongoing revision should urgently address the incineration and landfilling of recyclable waste. This is pivotal for achieving municipal and packaging waste recycling targets, already enshrined in EU law for multiple years but challenging for many Member States. The squandering of recyclable resources, losing their material value to incineration and landfilling, constitutes a significant yet avoidable hindrance to realising the circular economy. Furthermore, incineration and landfilling can raise concerns about human health and environmental protection.

We urge your endorsement of the changes proposed by MEPs from various groups in the ENVI Amendments **291, 292, 293, 294 and 465** addressing the sorting of mixed waste to remove recyclable materials before incineration and landfilling.

Justification: Achieving ambitious WFD and PPWD recycling targets, let alone further EU circular economy policy and industry goals, necessitates recovering all recyclable waste as feedstock for recycling. While separate collection should remain the principle, mandatory sorting of mixed waste is the only viable option in instances where recyclable materials are not captured by it. This approach has been studied and discussed publicly¹, with the potential to yield nearly 10 million tonnes of waste for recycling and create an estimated 23,700 additional jobs across the EU². Mechanisms to finance this sorting step, especially extended producer responsibility (EPR) for packaging, are already established and accepted by the market.

Your support for these amendments is instrumental in advancing the goals of the WFD and, consequently, the circular economy in Europe. We hope you will consider this essential issue

¹ <https://mwsresources.zohosites.eu>

² <https://www.reloopplatform.org/mixed-waste-sorting-dominichogg/>

in the upcoming discussions, and we look forward to engaging in constructive dialogue and collaboration.

Yours sincerely,

Co-signed by the following organisations:

CEFLEX

ClientEarth

Environmental Coalition on Standards (ECOS)

European Environment Bureau (EEB)

European Manufacturers of Expanded Polystyrene (EUMEPS)

European Plastics Converters (EuPC)

Flexible Packaging Europe

Metal Packaging Europe (MPE)

Minderoo Foundation

Natural Mineral Waters Europe (NMWE)

PELLENC ST

Polyolefin Circular Economy Platform – PCEP

STADLER

Styrenics Circular Solutions (SCS)

The Reloop Platform

TOMRA

UNESDA – Soft Drinks Europe

Zero Waste Europe