



EPSU  
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Waste Management  
Frame Work Directive on Waste  
European Parliament Position

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# Waste Framework Directive

- Proposed by European Commission
  - COM (2005) 667
- Council common conclusions on waste policy (June 2006)
- EP position adopted 13 February 2007
- Co-decision
  - First Reading
  - Second Reading
  - If no agreement conciliation

# Waste Framework Directive

- High level of protection of environment and human health – minimise negative effects of generation/ management; waste legislation: reduce use of resources
- Achieving a recycling society
  - Emphasis on recycling installations ?
- Commission to clarify which waste streams fall in scope of directive (when waste and when secondary material, when by-product)
- Polluter pays and producer responsibility
  - Life-cycle impacts

# Waste Management Directive

- Targets – net reduction of waste
- Role for local/ regional authorities, stakeholders and general public – public participation
- Hazardous wastes – appropriate management – adapted collection/ treatment techniques – “All hazardous waste operators need to have adequate qualifications and training” (recital)

# Waste Management Directive

- Refined Waste Hierarchy (article 1)
    - Prevention and reduction
    - Reuse
    - Recycling
    - Other recovery operations
    - Safe and environmentally sound disposal of waste
- Impact on incineration – not seen as recovery ?
- Departures possible if alternative treatments better for specific waste stream (role for stakeholders, Commission)

# Waste Management Directive

- New proposals foreseen
  - Promotion of recycling of specific materials
  - Legislative proposals for certain consumer products (elec. equipment)
  - Environmental and Quality criteria for by-products
  - EWC European Waste Catalogue
- New Definitions of waste, management, separate collection, prevention, re-use, recycling (but not energy recovery), recovery (criteria), treatment, disposal, energy recovery (but if more energy is added not recovery), cleaning, regeneration
- New definitions of dealer, broker, agent, **best available techniques** (3.i.h)

# Waste Management Directive

- By-products and waste (Criteria)
- More detail on producer responsibility (3b)
  - Take back obligations
  - Information on decycability of product to be provided
  - Require producers to use materials/ product design to avoid/ reduce waste
  - Facilities for repair and reuse
  - Separate collection facilities – end of life

# Waste Management Directive

- Prevention – target (Article 4.a)
  - Stabilise waste production by 2012 at levels of 2008
  - Consultation with stake-holders over measures to promote prevention
    - 2008 list of indicators to monitor, assess, report on progress of waste prevention
    - 2010 product eco-design policy
    - 2010 qualitative and quantitative waste reduction targets for 2020 (best available practice)
    - 2010 promoting change of consumption patterns

# Waste Management Directive

- European Recycling Society
  - Target: 2020 at least overall re-use and recycling level of 50% for solid municipal waste, 70% for construction/ demolition, industrial and manufacturing waste
  - 5 additional years for countries currently less than 5% recycling.
  - MS to promote high quality recycling; separate collection schemes
    - By 2015 separate collection for at least: paper, metal, plastic, glass, textiles, other (?) biodegradable wastes, oil, hazardous waste

# Waste Management Directive

- When amending annexes and implementing there is to be consultation with Member States, industrial, environmental, workers, consumers organisations (5.2a) (6.3)

# Waste Management Directive

- MS measures so waste management from collection to recovery/ disposal – processes/ methods ensuring high level of protection for human health/ environment/ water/air/ soil/ plants – no noise, odours
- Best available waste management techniques
- Possible new directives for certain waste streams

# Waste Management Directive

- Polluter pays principle – any holder of waste to carry out recovery/ disposal itself, or handled by company that carries out waste treatment operations (private or public collector)
- Costs borne by holder of waste collected/ managed and/or previous holder and/or producer

# Waste Management Directive

- Waste for disposal shall be treated in nearest installations (proximity – regardless of borders) (article 10)
- MS to establish in cooperation with others integrated and adequate network of disposal installations (best available techniques)

# Waste Management Directive

- Reclassification of hazardous waste to non-hazardous waste not through diluting/ mixing with aim to lower concentrations below thresholds (article 12.1.a)
  - Derogation possible
- MS to take measures to prevent mixing
- Traceability and control of waste to be ensured (article 15.a)
- Permit requirements for installations dealing with hazardous wastes

# Waste Management Directive

- Catering Waste- recovery of untreated catering waste for feeding purpose forbidden. To be eliminated by licensed companies – for pigs possible under stringent control etc. (article 18.a)
- Biowaste

# Waste Management Directive

- Waste Management Plans (MS)
  - MS may take measures to prevent movements of waste not in line with waste management plans
  - Local and regional authorities, stakeholders, public to be consulted
  - Stabilisation in 2012 and reduction in 2020

# Waste Management Directive

- Different reporting obligations (European Environmental Agency, MS, Commission)
- Consultation Forum on Waste Management – Broad mandate on consultation/ opinions
  - Composition: MS representatives, industry, SMEs, trade unions, traders, retailers, environmental protection groups, consumer operations

# Thematic Strategy EP position

- Waste volumes continue to grow
- Potential for prevention/ recycling not used
- Illegal cross border shipments of waste
- Waste management generates emissions
- Legislation is lacking for certain streams
- Legislation poorly implemented
- MS have different approaches to waste problems
- Current legislation leads to interpretation problems

# Thematic strategy EP position

- The aim of waste management is high level of protection environment and health rather than facilitating functioning of internal market for waste recovery
- Criticises Commission for lack of progress with legislation/ instruments for waste streams
- 5 step hierarchy (prevention, reuse, recycling, other recovery, disposal)
- Life-cycle approach

# Thematic Strategy EP Position

- Timetable
  - 2010 Ban on landfill of non-pre-treated waste with fermentable components
  - 2015 Ban on landfill of paper, cardboard, glass, textiles, wood, plastics, metals, rubber, cork, pottery, concrete, bricks and tiles
  - 2020 Ban on landfill of all recyclable waste
  - 2025 Ban on landfill of all residual waste (unless unavoidable, or hazardous)

# EPSU position

- EPSU is supportive of the position of the European Parliament. It is important to reduce waste and to put protection of the environment and human health first.
- The targets that have been established by the European parliament are ambitious. It will require a concerted effort of public authorities and stakeholders to achieve these.
- There is concern that companies might give preference to reuse and recycling rather than prevention as money can be made from this.
- Questions were raised over the proximity principle – will it imply that wastes can be transported to feed into incinerators for example
- EPSU is positive that the role of workers and trade unions is recognised, including in the consultative forum.
- The impact on workers of the different provisions in the directive is not clear. EPSU suggests that an Impact assessment is undertaken.
- The unions are concerned that implementing the directive will require much new investment. Could this lead to a shift from the public to the private sector and a larger role of the multinational companies and private equity investors ?
- Another issue that is debated: Will there be more concentration (in certain waste streams/ technologies Use of new technologies - health and safety aspects – employment effects – trade unions to be active
  - Local governments have to plan/ will get a bigger role ? (see shift ?)
  - If price increases – citizens might throw away waste and pose problem for the environment – control/ inspection needed/ local level; awareness/ education; general payment/ tax.
- Role for unions in MS waste plans
  - More on training/ demanding work
  - Best available techniques
  - Consultation Forum on Waste Management
- Environmental Agents rather than garbage guys