

Support to the Implementation of the European Waste List

Commissioned by:

European Commission DG Environment
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Carried out by:

Ökopol Institut für Ökologie und Politik GmbH

In co-operation with:

Argus Statistik und Informationssysteme in Umwelt und Gesundheit GmbH

Duration:

2007 - 2008

Background and objective

The European Waste List (EWL) has been adopted by Decision 2000/532/EC, last amended by Council Decision 2001/573/EC. Member States have largely transposed and implemented the Decision and some Member States have elaborated implementing guidelines.

The Committee established under Article 18 of the Waste Framework Directive 2006/12/EC (TAC) has organised two workshops in recent years in Berlin and Vienna where implementation experiences with the EWL have been shared. Member State experts agreed on the need to amend the EWL, but disagreed on the scale of necessary amendments.

The Thematic Strategy on Waste Prevention and Recycling has called for a review of the system of waste nomenclature with the purpose of simplifying and modernising waste legislation.

With this background the European Commission has charged Ökopol GmbH and ARGUS GmbH with a study which aims at

- a) informing the discussion about the further development of the EWL by providing information on the implementation of the EWL,
- b) proposing amendments of the EWL and
- c) assessing the impacts of these amendments.

Tasks

The study comprises three tasks:

- I. Task 1 aims at collecting information about the implementation of the European Waste List in the Member States and the experiences with its application.
- II. Task 2 aims at elaborating potential approaches to support the implementation and application of the European Waste List. It

comprises working steps regarding the classification of waste and the application of H-criteria for the classification of waste.

- a. Rules on the application of the properties H 9, H 12, H 13 and H 14
- b. Review of concentration limits of H-criteria (concentration limit for specific substances / substance classes / waste types and for POP containing waste; generic concentration limits)
- c. Development of a general waste testing strategy
- d. Adding and deleting existing codes to the EWL

III. Task 3 aims at developing proposals for structural revision of the European Waste List. Options to be assessed will include approaches

- a. where the identifier "waste origin" is detached from the six digit waste code and
- b. where the waste list is based on the material oriented structure as laid down in Annex VIII and IX of the Basel Convention 11.

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