

End-of-life vehicles; batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators; waste electrical and electronic equipment: resource efficiency. Circular economy package

2015/0272(COD) - 02/12/2015 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to improve waste management in the Union in order to facilitate Europe's transition to a circular economy.

PROPOSED ACT: Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with Council.

BACKGROUND: the Commission considers that recent trends suggest that **turning waste into a resource is an essential part** of increasing resource efficiency and closing the loop in a circular economy. The Union's economy currently loses a significant amount of potential secondary raw materials that are found in waste streams. **In 2013, total waste generation in the EU amounted to approximately 2.5 billion tons of which 1.6 billion tons were not reused or recycled** and therefore lost for the European economy. It is estimated that an additional 600 million tons could be recycled or reused. By way of example, only a limited share (43%) of the municipal waste generated in the Union was recycled, with the rest being landfilled (31%) or incinerated (26%).

With respect to **waste management**, the Union also faces large differences amongst its Member States. In 2011, while six Member States landfilled less than 3% of their municipal waste, 18 landfilled over 50%, with some exceeding 90%. This uneven situation needs to be redressed.

The proposal aims to amend: (i) [Directive 2000/53/EC](#) on end-of-life vehicles; (ii) [Directive 2006/66/EC](#) on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators. It is part of a **series of measures** on the circular economy which also includes proposals to amend:

- Directive 2008/98/EC on [waste](#);
- Directive 1994/62/EC on [package and packaging waste](#);
- [Directive 1999/31/EC](#) on landfill waste.

The proposals build in part on [the proposal](#) that the Commission tabled in July 2014 and subsequently **withdrew in February 2015**. They are in line with the objectives of the [Resource Efficiency Roadmap](#) and the [7th Environment Action Programme](#) including:

- full implementation of the waste hierarchy in all Member States;
- decline in absolute and per capita waste generation;
- ensuring high quality recycling and the use of recycled waste as a major, reliable source of raw materials for the Union.

They also contribute to the implementation of the [EU Raw Materials Initiative](#) and address the need to prevent food waste.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: the impact assessment led to the conclusion that the options envisaged will bring the following benefits:

- **reduction of the administrative** burden in particular for small establishments or undertakings, simplification and better implementation including by keeping targets ‘fit for purpose’;
- **more than 170,000 direct jobs could be created** by 2035, most of them impossible to delocalize outside the EU;
- **GHG emission reduction** – more than 600 millions of tons of green house gas could be avoided between 2015 and 2035;
- **positive effects on the competitiveness** of the EU waste management and recycling sectors as well as on the EU manufacturing sector ;
- **reinjection into the EU economy of secondary raw materials** which in turn will reduce the dependency of the EU on raw materials imports.

CONTENT: the proposal aims to **amend Directives 2000/53/EC, 2006/66/EC and 2012/19/EU** in order to improve waste management in the Union, with a view to protecting, preserving and improving the quality of the environment, protecting human health, ensuring prudent and rational utilisation of natural resources and promoting a more circular economy.

The proposed amendments aim to:

- simplify **the permit and registration requirements** for small establishments or undertakings;
- **simplify reporting obligations**: it is proposed to repeal provisions obliging Member States to produce implementation reports every three years and use exclusively the statistical data which Member States report every year to the Commission;
- **improve the reporting of statistics** in order for the Commission to assess compliance with waste legislation across the Member States, by introducing a single entry point for all waste data, deleting obsolete reporting requirements, benchmarking national reporting methodologies and introducing a data quality check report.
- provide that, when **preparing the reports on compliance with the targets set out in these Directives**, Member States should be required to use the most recent methodology developed by the Commission and the national statistical offices of Member States.