

Waste: elimination of polychlorinated biphenyls PCB and polychlorinated terphenyls PCT

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The committee adopted a draft recommendation by Mr David BOWE (PE 216.591). However, the Commission representative told the committee that the Commission would prefer many of the problems involved to be dealt with in a broader context than this directive. The committee adopted unanimously four amendments to the following effect: - it added a recital to the common position insisting that "there is a need to fund research into other methods of disposal of PCBs and PCTs and other persistent organic chlorines, in particular methods involving biodegradation and pretreatment using chlorine extraction"; - While Council Directive 75/439/EEC on the disposal of waste oils lays down 50 ppm (parts per million) as the maximum limit for the PCB or PCT content of regenerated oils or oils used as fuel, the committee took the view (amendment 2) that, in the light of technical progress, this limit should be reduced to 20 ppm for mixtures to be used as combustibles including waste oil; - the committee also called on Member States to ensure that compliance with the directive's disposal and decontamination provisions is monitored and that violations are effectively penalized; - finally, it called on Member States to introduce risk liability and to require that the operation of disposal installations be covered by insurance