

To: Members of the European Parliament's Environment Committee  
Members of the European Parliament's Industry Committee

Brussels, 7 November 2006

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

Considering the evolution of the debate in the Parliament on the Waste Framework Directive, our industrial and commerce sectors have felt the need to clearly express the **key prerequisites for a meaningful and effective waste management hierarchy** serving its purpose in future EU waste policy.

Our industries and commerce sectors share the view that regardless of the number of steps it includes (3, 4 or 5), the waste hierarchy should:

- 1) be conceived as a **guiding principle**
- 2) be **realistic and workable**
- 3) rely for its implementation on conditions linked to the **environmental, economic and social impacts** of individual measures.

In order to fulfil these 3 prerequisites, it is necessary that the future Waste Framework Directive provides for:

- 1) **clear definitions** for the different steps in the hierarchy
- 2) a **non procedural approach for the implementation of the hierarchy** (i.e. no complex procedures requiring the justification by controversial and expensive studies such as life cycle analyses, which are often incomplete and non-standardized)
- 3) a requirement for **EU Member States to take into account, while implementing the hierarchy, the environmental, economic and social impacts** of each individual measure.

In view of the vote in the Environment Committee on 28 November, we kindly ask you to take the above-mentioned requirements into account.

Representatives from the signatory sectors remain at your disposal to provide you with more details, and would be pleased to meet with you to discuss further any specific aspects of the amendments tabled ahead of the vote in November.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to obtain more information on our common position.

Yours sincerely,



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