

Hi all,

We finally have all the components on the table to launch the last actions for the Waste Framework Directive.

You can find an explanation below but the most important part is at the end of the email => **the organization of our actions for the next 10 days! We need you for that!**

What has happened

After the vote in the ENVI committee of the 8th of April, rapporteur Jackson went to negotiate the text with the council. The already weak text was even more weakened and a final common position was agreed last Wednesday by the member states and the rapporteur.

In the new text –you can find it attached-.

- There are no targets for waste prevention. No waste stabilization for 2012.
- Recycling targets are weakened to a confusing formulation where targets not binding and the measures to achieve them are not clear.
- Reclassification is in without the possibility to modify the stupid formula in 2 years time –as it was the case in last ENVI vote-.
- A definition of "by-products" is accepted. Meaning that lots of waste will stop being waste and start being by-product, for example ashes can be a by-product to build roads according to current IPPC proposal.

However we got the bio-waste part -but I have to check the details on this-.

More detailed explanation of the content will come next week because now I'm trying to get things organized for the actions. In any case you can check the text attached for details.

What will happen

Now the compromise for Common Position has to be accepted by the Parliament. The EP will vote on it the 17th or 18th of June. If it is adopted then the Directive will be finished and ready to be transposed to national law. When this happens you should try to improve the legislation at local level, because the levels they set are unacceptably low.

If the text is voted against, the process will move to conciliation, whereby a delegation made of the Commission representatives, Parliament representatives and Council representative will have to agree on a text taking into account the result of the last vote.

This option is very rare and normally the Parliament votes yes to the text that the rapporteur has agreed with the Council.

What we will do

1- From the legislative point of view we –together with Bankwatch- will retable the amendment to delete reclassification and EEB and Friends of the Earth will retable the amendment about targets. FEAD will retable amendment to delete by-products.

Coordinator: Keti keti.medarova@foeeurope.org, Anelia anelias@bankwatch.org and Joan Marc.

2- Next Tuesday 10th, together with HCWH we will send out a press release announcing that many doctors associations in Europe oppose the compromise text.

The associations of doctors will also be sending the letter with comments to the MEPs. Coordinator for this: Paul Whaley paul.whaley@hcwh.org and JM.

3- Thursday 12th together with the local groups from rapporteur Jackson constituency we will launch a PR highlighting the fact that she is receiving money from the waste industry and how that is a conflict of interests with her position as rapporteur for WFD. Jeni will try to come to Brussels with the constituents to give a bank check to Jackson. Maybe Jeni can say more about this.

Coordinator for this: Jeni juniperberijeni@riseup.net

4- During next week we will launch a global cyber-action where GAIA activists from all over the world will be writing to European authorities about WFD.

Coordinator: Neil neil@no-burn.org and Monica monica@no-burn.org.

5- Monday 16 or Tuesday 17th we will have a press conference in the European parliament in Strasbourg where together with the other NGOs -EEB, FoE, Bankwatch, HCWH and possibly Greenpeace- we will announce the opposition to the text. After the press conference we will show the film "Biutiful Country" about Naples. We are trying to get a media star to attract the media attention.

Coordinator: Nathalie nathalie.cliquot@eeb.org from EEB and Joan Marc.

What you can do

It is important that during next week you contact your environment ministry but even more your national MEPs and let them know that the deal of WFD is not acceptable. We need you to organise local actions to raise awareness about the bad deal.

We will provide you with all the background information and a draft letter early next week.

GAIA will be able to provide small grants for the organization of events about WFD during next 10 days. I know it is short notice but

Coordinator: Jeni juniperberijeni@riseup.net and Victor vmitjans@pangea.org

We have 10 busy days ahead of us to turn this around, if we don't manage we have to make them see that the people are against this decision and that more incineration is moving Europe away from being a recycling society. We have groups in almost all 27 member states and we will have the help from our GAIA friends from all over the world. We can do it!

Let's make it happen!!

Joan Marc