

To the JRC CDW EoW team:

## **Input to the JRC process on EU-wide End-of-Waste criteria for mineral CDW**

SBMI (Swedish Aggregates Producers Association) appreciates the opportunity to provide final input.

We support the objective of credible EU-wide End-of-Waste (EoW) criteria and would like to offer the following focused recommendations to help ensure that the final proposal is risk-based, proportionate and practically workable.

### **1. Ensure sufficient and relevant data before finalizing the proposal**

We encourage JRC to proceed with the technical work, but not to finalize the proposal before a robust impact and consequence assessment has been completed.

In particular, further clarification and data is needed on:

- batch versus column leaching tests, and
- comparability between L/S 2 and L/S 10 test results.

This is essential to ensure that proposed limit values reflect actual environmental risk and practical conditions.

### **2. Apply subsidiarity where national systems already function**

Recycled aggregates are mainly used locally, with very limited cross-border trade. Where Member States already have well-functioning national EoW criteria or equivalent systems, EU-wide criteria should not unintentionally replace or weaken these frameworks. Given the predominantly local nature of recycled aggregates markets, there is no strong need to rush final decisions at this stage; allowing additional time to consolidate the necessary knowledge would significantly improve the robustness and acceptance of the final criteria. EU EoW criteria should primarily support Member States that currently lack such systems.

### **3. Limit testing requirements to risk-relevant parameters**

Testing requirements must remain proportionate:

- focus only on substances that can realistically pose an environmental risk;
- avoid default requirements to “measure everything”;
- allow geological context, material origin and handling to justify exclusion of non-relevant parameters.

Excessive testing increases costs and risks which likely will hinder the recycling market.

### **4. Build on existing standards (Better Regulation)**

Sampling, testing and quality assurance should be based on existing European standards. Environmental criteria should be added on top of these frameworks, rather



than introducing new, fraction-specific systems.

Well-known materials with consistently low total content levels should not routinely require leaching tests.

#### **5. Clarify scope and treatment of asphalt**

Where asphalt is classified as waste, it would be beneficial to provide a clear pathway within the EoW framework rather than leaving this material outside the system entirely.

#### **6. Promote national general rules as a key complement to EoW criteria**

EoW criteria alone will not unlock the full recycling potential for aggregates. The Commission should also encourage general, risk-based national rules for recycling of waste classified materials, inspired by approaches such as the German Ersatzbaustoffverordnung or the Finnish MARA regulation.

#### **7. Joint industry associations letter to DG GROW on simplified regulation**

We would also like to note that the European aggregates industry, through its European association (Aggregates Europe) and together with several other European industry sectors, has recently addressed a joint letter to Ms Kerstin Jorna, Director-General of DG GROW. The letter highlights the need for proportionate and simplified regulation, warns against unnecessary complexity in the proposed EoW criteria, and stresses that recycled aggregates have a long and proven record of safe use under existing product standards. It further underlines the importance of aligning EoW criteria with the Construction Products Regulation and avoiding regulatory approaches that risk undermining the objectives of the circular economy objectives or creating additional administrative burdens without corresponding environmental benefits.

SBMI believes that a final proposal built on risk relevance, subsidiarity and proportionality will best support both environmental protection and the circular economy in practice.

Yours sincerely,

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