



Dutch Waste Management Association
Partner in the circular economy

2016 annual review



Now is the time to **focus on quality and markets**

During the past year I have got to know a fascinating industry. The companies in our industry take their job of collecting waste and processing it into clean new materials and sustainable energy very seriously indeed. Our members play a vital role in the circular economy, the Energy Agreement and the climate and resources policies. The waste sector certainly knows how to put its idealism into practice, and that, I believe, is essential. Sustainability is only really sustainable when it delivers a cleaner and more attractive environment and is itself also self-sustaining. Only then can you make real progress.

How can we make even greater strides towards the circular economy? By focusing on the quality of waste collection, driven by the market. Although collecting large quantities of waste is a good thing, we also have to make use of all the materials and products made from this waste.

The massive drive to separate waste is actually jeopardising the quality of the materials recovered. In the transition to the circular economy we must not lose sight

of the market; the supply of recycled raw materials must match the demand for them. That's why we have to invest in 'pull' measures that are driven by market demand. Together we must shift the emphasis to high quality products. The waste sector is committed to supplying raw materials and building materials of the quality its customers demand.

The public sector can use its considerable procurement power to give a major boost to the market by choosing sustainable options when purchasing products and contracting out services. Government can also stimulate circularity through its policies, for example by introducing lower VAT rates for recycled products or compulsory percentages of secondary materials in new products. If everyone takes their role seriously, the circular economy will have a good chance of success.

Boris van der Ham

President of the Dutch Waste Management Association (DWMA)



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New members

Van Kaathoven Groep, Van Scherpenzeel, Inashco and Boskalis Environmental join the DWMA. Now that Van Kaathoven Groep is a member, the DWMA represents as good as 100% of the Dutch food and green waste composting sector. Van Kaathoven Groep is a member of the Bioconversion Section and the Collection and Recycling Section. Van Scherpenzeel joins the Collection and Recycling Section. The other two companies are associate members.



MeBR Steering Group

The More and Better Recycling (MeBR) Steering Group discusses a number of topics, including a letter from BRBS Recycling (the Dutch association for the recycling of construction and demolition wastes) to environment minister Sharon Dijksma and the DWMA project on raising collection rates of food and green waste, *Gft-inzameling omhoog!*. The DWMA asks the government to incorporate the project into the 'From Waste to Raw Material' (VANG) programme to

support the separate collection of household waste by local government. The DWMA's Bioconversion Section is shifting its focus from inputs to outputs and for this reason will end its financial support to the project in mid-2016. It is agreed that the VANG household waste Steering Group will consider the DWMA's request to take over the running of the project. The DWMA is prepared to continue providing substantive guidance to the project.



DWMA secretariat up to full strength

The appointment of Jennifer Koster-Bos brings staff numbers at the secretariat back up to ten. Jennifer will work on occupational safety and health, bioconversion, and hazardous and oil-containing wastes.



Exporting Dutch expertise

DWMA director Dick Hoogendoorn attends a meeting organised by Chris Kuijpers, the head of the environment ministry's Directorate-General for the Environment and International Affairs, to discuss the possibilities for the Netherlands to export its expertise in waste management and

recycling and market the circular economy internationally. The meeting concludes that an umbrella organisation should be established for this purpose. Government funding will be needed to get it off the ground. Businesses could provide financing if they join as individual members.

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P90 study

A working group of the DWMA, the Association for Refuse and Cleansing Management (NVRD) and a delegation of employees discuss the design of a study into the current P90 standard for the physical workload of refuse collectors. The study should lead to more flexible guidance to take the place of the P90

standard in the Health and Safety Catalogue for the Waste Sector. The aim is to have the new guidance ready by the end of 2016. It is agreed that the new guidance will be tested at a few companies in 2017 before being introduced throughout the industry. The guidance will be evaluated a year after its introduction.



Sewage sludge exempt from tax

Eric Wiebes, the state secretary for finance, tells the Dutch House of Representatives that the European Commission does not consider the exemption from waste disposal charges for the incineration of sewage sludge in waste-to-energy plants to be state aid. According to

the Commission the measure is in line with the nature and purpose of the waste disposal charge. The exemption will soon enter into force by royal decree and will be effective retroactively from 1 January 2015, the date on which the scope of the waste disposal charge was extended to include waste



Future of mattress recycling

The DWMA attends a meeting of the Utrecht Sustainability Institute on the future of mattress recycling. It is noted that the current market prices for secondary raw materials are putting the recycling structure for mattresses under strain. It is agreed that a working group will look into a system for the collection and recycling of mattresses in Utrecht and Amsterdam. The working group will be led by the Association for Refuse and Cleansing Management (NVRD). All groups present – municipalities, manufacturers and the sector – agree to cooperate.



Chair of the Bioconversion Section

The Bioconversion Section elects John van Haeff of Attero as its new chair. incineration.

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Energy Report

Publication of the 'Energy Report – Transition to sustainable energy', which contains an integral vision for the future of energy supply in the Netherlands. The Government identifies three main principles for the transition to sustainable energy: focusing on CO₂ reduction, making the most of the economic opportunities offered by

the energy transition, and integrating energy into spatial planning policy. To determine what type of action should be taken, the report distinguishes between four energy functions: energy for space heating, energy for industrial process heat, energy for transport, and energy for power and light.



Working Group on Plastic Sorting set up

The Collection and Recycling Section establishes a Working Group on Plastic Sorting. It will work with the Working Group on Packaging to draft the new implementation and monitoring protocol for packaging waste and oversee the sampling of packaging waste from households. Intensive consultation will be held with Nedvang (the industry organisation responsible for registering the recycling of packaging materials), the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG) and the Association for Refuse and Cleansing Management (NVRD).



Waste Conference 2016

The programme board for the Waste Conference 2016 decides that this year's conference will be held on 5 October in Utrecht. The environment minister, Sharon Dijksma, is invited and agrees to attend. The conference will be organised by the DWMA, the Association for Refuse and Cleansing Management (NVRD) and the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment.



Consequences of rejecting the STROOM bill

In response to the rejection by the Senate in December 2015 of the STROOM legislative agenda on streamlining, optimising and modernising the Electricity and Gas Act, the minister of economic affairs, Henk Kamp, submits new draft legislation to ensure the objectives of the Energy

Agreement are met and the current legislation is improved. As these new bills are still going through parliament, the drafting of a new single Electricity and Gas Bill has been delayed and will probably be sent to the House of Representatives only at the end of 2017.

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Waste Treatment BREF

The DWMA discusses the Dutch response to the EU Waste Treatment BREF with the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment and its executive agency Rijkswaterstaat. The DWMA formulates its own position in close discussion with its members. The response concentrates on the chapter on best available techniques. The consultation response must be submitted before 18 March.



Stakeholder meeting on the circular economy

The DWMA takes part in a stakeholder meeting on the circular economy. The meeting is organised by the Dutch environment and economic affairs ministries

and the European Commission. The Netherlands will take the message arising from the meeting to the EU debate on the Circular Economy Package.



Biocluster

The DWMA takes part in a meeting of the Biocluster – a collaborative group of organisations that promote bioenergy – and its communication working group. The topics discussed include the business for the year ahead and the letter to the House of Representatives on the parliamentary committee meeting with members of government on energy policy. The working group is drawing up a bioenergy profile, a reference document on energy from organic raw materials. A number of messages from the document will also be presented on fact sheets.



Government vision Biomass 2030

The Government publishes its vision on the use of biomass in 2030. The message of the report is that there is potentially enough renewable biomass available to meet the Dutch demand for biomass for a range of uses. This will require an increase in the supply of biomass and the optimal use of biomass.

The government will continue its efforts to make the production and use of biomass more sustainable. Biomass should preferably be used where there are no sustainable alternatives, for example to generate heat (at high temperatures) for industry. Energy from waste can be part of this.

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MeBR Steering Group

In an extra meeting, the More and Better Recycling (MeBR) Steering Group discusses the Annual Report 2015 and Implementation Programme 2016–2017. The 'ecodesign/design for recycling' project is making little progress. The Steering Group regrets this, particularly because projects that target the beginning of the materials chain are very important for the transition to the circular economy. Reducing waste in outdoor areas should be prioritised, because the size of this waste stream means that considerable results can be achieved.

[continuation of MeBR Steering Group \(January\) ▶](#)



SDE+ 2016 published

The sustainable energy incentive scheme SDE+ for 2016 is published. For the first time the SDE+ is divided into two periods. The first period starts on 22 March, the second in October. The budget available for SDE+ in 2016 is 8 billion euros. The basic principles of the scheme have been retained, but a few changes have been made to the rules.



Export duty set at zero

The state secretary for finance, Eric Wiebes, feels compelled to set the export duty at a zero rate. In a letter to both houses of parliament he makes it clear that there is no way to apply the duty that is feasible and enforceable under European law. Wiebes's decision gives certainty to exporting companies, but creates an uneven playing field in Europe, giving foreign par-

ties a competitive advantage. The state secretary wants to investigate with the sector whether or not it would be possible to introduce the export duty in a different form at a later date. The government and the sector are considering what further action to take. The DWMA believes the Flemish system of export duty offers a way forward.



Membership of EuRIC

The DWMA becomes a member of the European Recycling Industries' Convention (EuRIC). By working together, the DWMA and EuRIC can better represent the interests of recycling companies in Europe and speed up the transition to the circular

economy. EuRIC represents 5,500 companies, which recycle about 150 million tonnes of waste each year, provide jobs for 300,000 people and have a combined annual turnover of 95 billion euros

[more info ▶](#)



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Dutch-German collaboration

The DWMA and ITAD, the German association of waste-to-energy plants, discuss the possibilities for more intensive cooperation on research, communication and knowledge exchange. The two organisations also want to draw up a protocol between the Netherlands and the German states of North Rhine-Westphalia and Lower Saxony, sup-

ported by the competent authorities. The protocol would enable the waste-to-energy plants in the German states and the Netherlands to help each other out in the event of temporary capacity problems in the processing of combustible residual waste. The two associations will identify the obstacles to cross-border transport.



International Affairs Working Group

The International Affairs Working Group, led by the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment and set up in 2015 to implement the More and Better Recycling (MeBR) project and the EU's Circular Economy Package (CEP), discusses the progress being made with the CEP and the HP 14 method for defining the ecotoxicity of materials. The ministry makes it clear that it will take some time to collate

the responses to the CEP from all the member states, for one thing because there is considerable debate about the methodology for calculating recycling rates. The member states agree that Europe should have a single common calculation methodology. For source separated waste streams, a majority of member states would prefer to shift the point at which measurements are made to

where the recycling actually occurs. Outside the meeting, the DWMA and the ministry express their concerns to the European Commission about progress with the HP 14 definition, complaining that the conceptual and empirical foundations for the proposal are too weak. One of the consequences could be that construction and demolition waste aggregate and bottom ash are classified as hazardous waste.



Presentation at VVM Café

The DWMA gives a presentation about the developments in the sector during the first VVM Café, a meeting of the Dutch network of environmental professionals VVM.

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EuRIC meeting on the circular economy

The DWMA takes part in a meeting of the European Recycling Industries' Confederation (EuRIC) on the Circular Economy Package. During the meeting recycling companies present examples of techniques that can be put into practice with support from the EU. A number of concrete proposals were mentioned to further stimulate recycling of secondary raw materials, such as reducing taxes on secondary raw materials to zero and a European framework for sustainable procurement.



Visit to the European Parliament

Pieter Hofstra, chair of the DWMA, visits the European Parliament and holds talks with MEPs Jan Huitema (ALDE) and Annie Schreijer-Pierik (EPP). The topics discussed include European measures that could be taken to boost the use of secondary raw materials. The DWMA also talks with the Permanent Representation of the Netherlands to the EU about the progress being made with the Circular Economy Package and about the joint organisation of a Euroday in the autumn.



Annual Review 2015

The DWMA publishes its Annual Review 2015. It takes the form of a timeline showing the main events and activities by the DWMA and relevant events and developments in the Dutch waste management industry over the past year.

[more info](#) ▶



New president meets with CEWEP

Incoming DWMA president Boris van der Ham gets acquainted with the Confederation of European Waste-to-Energy Plants (CEWEP). They talk about the role of waste-to-energy in the circular economy and progress with the organisation of the CEWEP conference in Rotterdam on 16 June 2016. The DWMA is one of the joint organisers of this conference.



Green Deal North Sea Resources Roundabout

The Netherlands, Flanders, the United Kingdom and France sign the International Green Deal on the North Sea Resources Roundabout in Brussels to make better use of secondary raw materials streams. They agree to harmonise their policies for certain resource streams to facilitate international trade in these

materials. The first resource streams to be traded under this agreement will be incinerator bottom ash, compost and PVC. It is expected that in future more secondary raw materials will follow. Promising resource streams are struvite and electrical goods.

[more info](#) ▶



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FEAD General Council

The FEAD General Council discusses progress with the Circular Economy Package and the revision of the Waste Treatment BREF. The Council decides that FEAD should tell the IPPC Bureau it has misgivings about the large discrepancy between the reported emissions and the emission standards in the best available techniques (BAT) chapter of the draft Waste Treatment BREF. This could lead to some companies being faced with emission standards that are too stringent.



Appointment of new president

The members of the DWMA appoint Boris van der Ham as their new president per 1 April 2016. During the Annual General Meeting in Nieuwspoor in The Hague, the members

welcome Van der Ham and thank departing president Pieter Hofstra for his ten years' service.

[More info](#) ►



Meeting with Sharon Dijksma

After the Annual General Meeting in The Hague, the members and representatives from sister organisations have the opportunity to get acquainted with the Dutch environment minister, Sharon Dijksma. In an informal setting they talk about various topical issues, including the new EU Circular Economy Package, the market for secondary raw materials and the third National Waste Management Plan.



Board meeting with FEBEM

The regular board meeting with the DWMA's Belgian sister organisation FEBEM takes place at Maltha Glasrecycling, part of Van Gansewinkel Groep. The new president, Boris van der Ham, departing president Pieter Hofstra and civil servants from the European Commission attend the meeting. After a tour of the site, the participants exchange views about current national and

European issues, such as the waste disposal charge, the difficult market for secondary raw materials and the organisation of a Euroday in 2016. The representatives from the Commission learn more about how the calculation of recycling rates works out in practice for the various waste streams. This is a much debated topic in the review of European waste legislation.

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Waste Treatment BREF

The DWMA submits its consultation response on the Waste Treatment BREF to the IPPC Bureau. It also has an input via FEAD. Over the next eight months the IPPC Bureau will analyse the comments received and prepare a new proposal. In the same period the DWMA will reiterate the key points of its message with the IPPC Bureau.

 continuation of Waste Treatment BREF (January) ▶



National Compost Day

Saturday 19 March is the tenth National Compost Day. On this day a large number of people collect free compost from many locations throughout the country. The event is organised by members of DWMA and BVOR (the Dutch association of bio-waste processors) in cooperation with many local authorities.



Sustainability of Solid Biomass III

The third Sustainability of Solid Biomass report is sent to the House of Representatives. The report is about the Green Deal signed in October 2012 by the government and Dutch energy producers and industry associations. The DWMA and its members HVC Groep, AVR and Twence are parties to the Green Deal.



Launch of Safety First

At a kick-off meeting of the Safety First project, members of the DWMA and BRZO companies (companies covered by the Major Accidents (Risks) Decree) discuss the aims and key components of the project, as well as the activities within these components. It is agreed to investigate the possibilities for Safety Deals with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment and associated grant funding.



Pilot projects on waste separation in high-rise buildings

The 'Improving waste separation and collection in high-rise buildings' project enters the next stage. In 2016 eight municipalities are going to assess what works in which situations and what does not, and why. The study should lead to a blueprint for action for every municipality that wants to run a pilot project. The pilot projects will run until mid-2017. The DWMA is a partner in the project.



Participation in TV programme

On behalf of the DWMA, the chair of the Bioconversion Section, Johan van Haeff, takes part in the TV programme *Groen Licht* (Green Light). The programme concludes that compostable plastic with the seedling logo belongs in the food and green waste bin and not on home compost heaps. The material only fully decomposes in industrial composting processes.

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Talks on WSR application procedures

The DWMA holds talks with managers at the Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate about the problems members experience with applications for consents under the EU Waste Shipment Regulation. For various reasons some applications are subject to enormous delays. The government and industry are both

unhappy with this situation and both parties agree to work together to find a way to solve this problem. An approach that allows distinctions to be made according to the type of waste stream and the history of the applicant could offer a way forward. DWMA members and Inspectorate staff will meet to exchange ideas.



Revision of NTA 8003

The DWMA takes part in the kick-off meeting for the revision of the Dutch Technical Agreement (NTA) 8003, 'Classification of biomass for energy applications'. An important principle for the DWMA is that amendments to the NTA 8003 should not have any negative consequences for operators with subsidies under the sustainable energy incentive scheme (SDE) or permits based on the current NTA 8003.



Environment and Planning Act

The Senate approves the Environment and Planning Act. The Act consolidates 26 laws and reduces the number of orders in council from 120 to 4. The purpose of reducing the number of regulations is to improve environmental quality, give businesses greater choice, shorten administrative procedures and reduce research costs.

Working groups are established with members from the DWMA's environment committee and experts from the sections to take part in the consultation rounds for the orders in council and the supplementary acts to implement parts of the Act. The consultation on the Environment and Planning Act begins on 1 July.

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Letter on setting export duty to zero

The DWMA and the Association for Refuse and Cleansing Management (NVRD) send a letter on the export duty to the parliamentary standing committee on finance. The two organisations clearly state their concern that introducing a zero tariff export duty will have negative consequences. A zero tariff will create an uneven play-

ing field and the Dutch waste sector will be put at a competitive disadvantage. The organisations suggest the Flemish export duty system offers an example for the Netherlands to follow. The Flemish system has proved its worth in practice.

continuation of Export duty set at zero (February) ▶



MeBR Steering Group

The More and Better Recycling (MeBR) Steering Group adopts the Annual Report 2015 and the Implementation Programme 2016–2017, and discusses a number of programme elements and current developments. The part of the programme on 'ecodesign and design for recycling and increasing the market for recyclates'

needs more market engagement. A new topic for discussion is the question of whether restrictions on the recycling of 'substances of high concern' should be imposed. The National Waste Management Plan Steering Committee will look into this.

continuation of MeBR Steering Group (January) ▶



Brochure on contracting sewer maintenance

The DWMA publishes a brochure giving guidance to local authorities on contracting sewer maintenance services. An important consideration when contracting sewer maintenance works is the principle of 'the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT), unless'. This means that a contracting body assesses tenders not

just on price, but also on the quality of service offered, occupational safety and health management, and environmental and sustainability aspects. The brochure provides straightforward and easily applicable advice on the possibilities for MEAT specifications in the sewer maintenance market.



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Objection to releasing waste data

The DWMA and the Association of the Dutch Chemical Industry (VNCI) lodge a formal objection to a decision by the head of the National Waste Reporting Centre in response to a request under the Government Information (Public Access) Act. A waste broker had asked for information on the amounts of

waste per Eural code for all companies/discarders in the Netherlands. The DWMA and VNCI claim these data are confidential and that the government has agreed not to make them public. They are seeking an interim injunction until a ruling is made on the objection.



Assessment criteria for the Keurcompost label version 5.0

Version 5.0 of the assessment criteria for Keurcompost (certified compost) comes into force. An important change is that incontinence products and disposable nappies, either separately collected or mixed with food and green waste, are not permitted as feedstock for compost made from household food and green waste. Agreements have been made with the relevant parties on phasing out these inputs within the period of current contracts. The current version of the assessment criteria also contains new

provisions, such as conditions on imports. The DWMA/BVOR Keurcompost certification committee is responsible for the revision of the assessment criteria.



NWMP Steering Committee

The National Waste Management Plan Steering Committee meets to discuss the preparation of the third National Waste Management Plan (NWMP). The first draft of the chapter on substances of high concern is on the table. The sector underlines the importance of the subject and wants to

see a practical approach that takes account of the European perspective. The committee also discusses the current position regarding the government-wide programme for the circular economy. The programme is expected to be launched after the summer.

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Soil resilience additives from organic residual streams

Wageningen UR starts research into the added value of turning organic residual streams into materials for increasing soil resilience. The study is a public-private initiative between researchers from various disciplines at Wageningen UR and a large number of partners and financiers. The DWMA is one of the partners making this research possible. The study will be completed by the end of 2019.



President's introductory tour

To get to know the sector, Boris van der Ham starts his introductory tour, which will continue over the next few months. He will learn much about the industry during many com-

pany visits, talks with other industry associations and attendance at section meetings.

 continuation of Appointment of new president (March) ►



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Occupational safety and health checklists for temp agencies

The DWMA is assisting with the preparation of occupational safety and health checklists for the temporary employment industry, which will be made available to temporary employment agencies by the Stichting Arbo Flex-

branche. The checklists should ensure that agency workers are properly informed of the safety rules and occupational hazards at the companies where they will be working.



Interim injunction granted

The court in The Hague grants an interim injunction pending the hearing of the objection lodged in April by the DWMA and VNCI to the decision by the National Waste Reporting Centre to release waste data. This means that the data may not be made public until the minister of infrastructure and the environment has made a decision about the objection. During the hearing the objecting parties explain the reasons for their objections.

continuation of Objection to releasing waste data (April) ▶



Meeting on future of export duty

The sector holds talks with the finance ministry on the future of the export duty on waste. It is noted that examples from Flanders and Austria may offer a way forward. These will be investigated further over the next few months. The DWMA calls for urgent and

speedy action to limit the negative consequences as much as possible. A viable solution must be found before the end of the year and must be in place on 1 January 2018 at the latest.

continuation of Letter on setting export duty to zero (April) ▶



Open government law

The DWMA points out to the Senate the risks of the proposal to replace the Government Information (Public Access) Act with an open government law. The DWMA is concerned that the bill does not contain sufficient provision to prevent commercial and sensitive information provided to government bodies from being made available to third parties.

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Role of the waste sector in the energy transition

The DWMA meets with the Social and Economic Council (SER) to discuss the waste sector's contribution to meeting the energy policy targets, the contribution it could make to the Energy Agreement for Sustainable Growth via the considerable energy generating potential of the sector, and its possible accession to the Energy Agreement. The SER advises the DWMA to raise the sector's contribution to the energy transition in the Energy Dialogue started by the government to collect ideas for its Energy Report.



Waste Treatment BREF

More than half of the comments on the first draft of the revised Waste Treatment BREF are about the chapter on best available techniques (BAT). The German government asks the IPPC Bureau to organise a data assessment workshop, because there is a huge discrepancy between the emission data supplied

by the installations and the emission standards stated in the BAT chapter. The workshop would give participants a better understanding of the methods used by the IPPC Bureau to determine the BATs. The request is supported by other member states.

[continuation of Waste Treatment BREF \(March\) ▶](#)



Ecotoxic property HP14

The DWMA, the Confederation of European Waste-to-Energy Plants (CEWEP) and the Fédération Internationale du Recyclage (FIR) have commissioned a study of the proposal by the European Commission on the classification approaches for hazard property HP 14 to inform the decision-making on the methodology for the assessment of HP 14. The DWMA is dissatisfied with the impact assessment prepared by the European

Commission. The Commission's report is incomplete and inaccurate and, in the eyes of the DWMA, cannot form the basis for a sound decision. Ill-considered decision-making could lead to non-hazardous materials being classified as hazardous waste, which would have consequences for the recyclability and reuse of these materials, and put the market at risk

[continuation of International Affairs Working Group \(February\) ▶](#)



Recycling calculation methods

The DWMA and the Dutch government's environmental agency Rijkswaterstaat discuss the practicalities and dilemmas of the European Commission's proposal to adopt a single method for calculating recycling rates that count towards the recycling targets in the revised Waste Framework Directive. For example, at the moment plastics, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, and minerals from bottom ash do not count towards the recycling targets.

[continuation of International Affairs Working Group \(February\) ▶](#)

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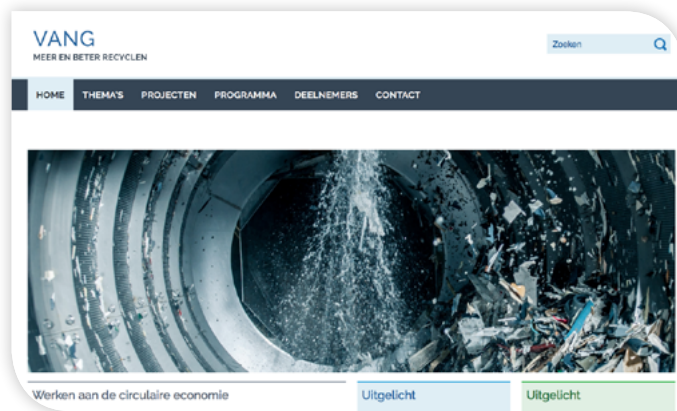
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More and Better Recycling website

The website www.meeren-beterrecyclen.nl is launched. The website contains details of the progress being made with the

projects under the More and Better Recycling (MeBR) agreement made between the sector and the government in 2015. The DWMA is one of the parties to the MeBR programme.



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NWMP Steering Committee

The agenda of the NWMP Steering Committee is dominated by the preparation of the third National Waste Management Plan, which is due to be published in the first half of 2017. Among the topics discussed are the timetable, a number of sector plans and other proposals, including the treatment of substances of very high concern (SVHC). The com-

mittee does not support the proposal by BRBS Recycling (the Dutch association for the recycling of construction and demolition wastes) to include a separate status in the waste hierarchy for combustible residues from sorting processes.

 continuation of NWMP Steering Committee (April) ▶



PlayandPeace Milk Can Tour at DWMA

The 365 day PlayandPeace Milk Can Tour for organisations starts at the DWMA. DWMA president Boris van der Ham receives the milk can. The aim of the Milk Can Tour is to fund the construction of Cruyff Courts in Brussels, starting with one in the Molenbeek district. The

initiators want to bring people together in support of a common goal and in doing so get people of different backgrounds to talk to each other more. The initiative was prompted by the terrorist bombings in Brussels in March. The DWMA passes the milk can on to CEWEP.



Self-regulation of health and safety

The DWMA takes part in the directors meeting of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment's programme on self-regulation of health and safety at work. The aim of the meeting is to gather suggestions from the field for the last 18 months of the programme. The industry

associations present at the meeting stress that besides self-regulation it is crucially important that the government ensures a level playing field for healthy and safe working practices by establishing a clear regulatory framework and taking targeted enforcement action.

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Evaluation of the SDE+ starts

The DWMA attends a stakeholders meeting to kick off the evaluation of the SDE+ sustainable energy incentive scheme. The Ministry of Economic Affairs wants to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the scheme. Besides the stakeholders meeting, the researchers are collecting data via questionnaire surveys of property developers and from in-depth interviews with representatives from financial institutions and other organisations.



GrondstoffenPoort

The first GrondstoffenPoort meeting of 2016 is held. Ed Nijpels comments on the upcoming advice from the Social and Economic Council (SER) on the circular economy.



New chair of the Sewer Maintenance Section

The Sewer Maintenance Section appoints Evert van Vliet, associate director of Teeuwissen Rioleering, as its new section chair. He succeeds Leo van der Valk (vandervalk+degroot).



Role of the waste sector in the energy transition

The DWMA issues a memorandum setting out in clear terms the role the sector can play in the energy transition. The memorandum describes the huge energy generating potential of the waste sector and what is required to realise this potential. The DWMA submits the memorandum for consideration in the Energy Dialogue.

continuation of Role of the waste sector in the energy transition (May) ▶



CEWEP Congress

The CEWEP Waste-to-Energy Congress 2016 takes place in Rotterdam. The programme of this 8th CEWEP Congress includes prominent speakers from the Dutch government, the European Commission,

the European Parliament, local government, the waste sector and the scientific community. AVR and the DWMA were joint organisers with CEWEP.

[more info ▶](#)



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Vision on bioconversion

The Bioconversion Section bases its strategy on three pillars: Collection of food and green waste, Compost is Cash and BioBucks. The focus is on the market for compost. The waste sector draws attention to the added value of using compost instead of animal

manure. Compost is an important soil conditioner and supplier of organic matter, and can prevent soil impoverishment. The sector is also taking action to develop the next generation of green waste products. For example, the DWMA and its members

are taking part in the Waste2Aromatics research project into converting organic material into bio-aromatics. The separate collection of food and green waste remains in need of attention.



EuroDay 2016

The DWMA, its Belgian counterpart Go4Circle (previously FEBEM) and the Permanent Representation of the Netherlands in Brussels make preparations for EuroDay 2016, to be held on 22 November in Brussels. EuroDay is for anyone who wants to learn more about developments in EU policy, with a focus on activities to do with the circular economy. In preparation for EuroDay, the DWMA collects information from its members about innovations, investments and subsidies.



EU action plan for the circular economy

The European Commission publishes its Circular Economy Action Plan, part of its review of EU waste legislation. The DWMA notes that the action plan is an implementation agenda with sensible general recommendations, but without any concrete measures or clear timetable. A positive aspect is that the Council's conclusions on the action plan indicate that the member states have embraced the idea of the circular economy. They want to modernise the economy and make more efficient use of resources.



P90 study

The working group discusses progress with the P90 research project. Both the energetic (heart rhythm) and mechanical (work postures, such as pushing/pulling, lifting and carrying) aspects of the study are behind schedule. The research results should be available at the end of the year.

[continuation of P90 study \(January\) ►](#)

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Sustainable Landfill pilot projects begin

The ten year experiment with sustainable landfill officially starts on 1 July 2016. The royal decree published in June 2016 gives the operators the green light to take all the preparatory measures needed to start the pilot projects during the course of the year. The design, specifications and contracts for the pilot projects are in place. What still remains to do over the coming months is to amend the permits and install the equipment at the pilot project sites.



New member: Groningen Seaports

Groningen Seaports joins the DWMA. The company is the administrator and commercial operator of the port of Delfzijl and the port of Eemshaven and adjoining industrial zone. Groningen Seaports is developing an efficient and innovative recycling cluster for the region.

continuation of New members (January) ▶



Waste Treatment BREF

The IPPC Bureau does not honour Germany's request to organise a data assessment workshop, but instead will hold webinars in September.

continuation of Waste Treatment BREF (May) ▶



Clean raw materials from bottom ash

The sector is working hard on the processing of bottom ash to produce clean raw materials, as agreed in the Green Deal on bottom ash. The DWMA meets with the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment and its executive agency Rijkswaterstaat to discuss the possibilities for classifying clean raw

materials recovered from bottom ash as recycling, just like the metals recovered from bottom ash. This would help towards meeting the recycling targets for household waste and stimulate the market for secondary raw materials.

[more info](#) ▶



Study of the plastics chain

The sustainable packaging knowledge institute KIDV starts a project to close the household plastics loop. The project aims to increase knowledge of the plastics life cycle to make it possible to achieve the goals of the Framework Agreement on Packaging. The DWMA is a member of the broad sounding board group supporting the project.

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MeBR Steering Group

The More and Better Recycling (MeBR) Steering Group discusses the communication plan and the MeBR projects 'Waste separation outside the home' and 'Stimulating ecodesign and design for recycling'. An agreement has been signed for the first project with Dutch Railways (NS) and activities have been organised at sports clubs and schools. There is much to be gained on this front.

 continuation of MeBR Steering Group (April) ►



Biobased aromatics from organic waste

The research into the production of bio-aromatics from organic waste which began in 2015 enters the second phase. Over the next 18 months, 12 parties will scale up the lab test to a pilot installation for the conversion of organic mat-

ter into furans. Furans are raw materials for the production of bio-aromatics, important feedstocks for the chemical industry. The DWMA and its members AEB, Orgaworld and Twence are partners in the project.



Five years of regulatory oversight by SZW

The Inspectorate SZW (social affairs and employment) publishes a report on five years of regulatory oversight in the waste sector. The Inspectorate consulted with industry associations, conducted inspection projects and investigated accidents and complaints. The Inspec-

torate concludes that the sector is working hard to ensure safe working environments for its employees, but that the number of accidents remains high. It observes that occupational hazards in the sector remain a cause for concern and makes suggestions to resolve them.



Waste Incineration BREF

The IPPC Bureau announces it will be holding webinars on the revision of the Waste Incineration BREF in autumn 2016. The feedback obtained will be used by the European Commission when preparing its first draft of the BREF, which is expected in the first quarter of 2017.

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Improving the handling of WSR applications

Staff of the Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate (ILT) and the DWMA, BRBS Recycling (the Dutch association for the recycling of construction and demolition wastes) and their members meet to exchange ideas on how to improve the handling of applications made under the Waste Shipment Regulation. ILT will work up a

number of potential solutions with the sector. These include possibilities for ILT staff to specialise in waste streams or market segments and the possibility of working with two desks, one for repeat applications and one for unusual or new applications.

 [continuation of Talks on WSR applications \(March\) ►](#)



Membership of Dutch Biorefinery Cluster

The Bioconversion Section becomes an associate member of the Dutch Biorefinery Cluster (DBC). The activities of the DBC complement those of the section's members, who support the development of a biobased economy.

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Open government law

The minister of the interior and kingdom relations, Ronald Plasterk, initiates an impact assessment of the Open Government Bill currently before the Senate. The assessment should give a picture of the impact of the bill, the expected costs and implementation burden. The Senate will wait for the assessment before debating the bill.

[continuation of Open government law \(May\) ▶](#)



Stimulating collection of food and green waste

Account managers of the members of the Bioconversion Section discuss how to follow up the *Gft-inzameling omhoog!* project on raising collection rates of food and green waste, which comes to an end this summer. The aim is to maintain and improve collection rates in future. The DWMA and its members can help in

several ways. For example, the members want to see a shift in emphasis in the government's collection policy from quantity to quality and better communication with municipalities about the importance of this distinction and what it means for waste collection practices.



Response to environmental legislation

The DWMA gives its response to the four orders in council under the Environment and Planning Act via the online consultation process. A large group of DWMA experts were actively involved in preparing this response. The complexity of the materials and the radical changes being

made to the legislation mean that a thorough and timely preparation is essential. The DWMA expects that much of the existing compliance management systems will have to be overhauled.

[continuation of Environment and Planning Act \(March\) ▶](#)



Recycling PET dishes

The DWMA's Working Group on Packaging Sorting holds a meeting with the Packaging Waste Fund to find a solution to the difficulty of recycling waste PET containers. Stockpiles of these plastic dishes are building up in expectation of a suitable processing method. The Waste Fund and the Association of Netherlands Municipalities are negotiating a reimbursement to municipalities for the separate collection of PET containers

[continuation of Working Group on Plastic Sorting set up \(January\) ▶](#)

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CO₂ Performance Ladder – list of measures

The Foundation for Climate-Friendly Procurement and Business (SKAO) wants to expand the list of measures in the CO₂ Performance Ladder with a category for the waste sector. SKAO wants to fill in the details of this category with the sector and to this end is organising a workshop with the DWMA for a few certified companies that are members of DWMA and/or BRBS Recycling (the Dutch association for the recycling of construction and demolition wastes).



President's letter to the editor

In a letter to the editor of the Dutch newspaper *Trouw*, DWMA president, Boris van der Ham, says that the government can effectively stimulate the circular economy through sustainable and ethical procurement.



Evaluation of the Landfill (Aftercare) Act

The evaluation of the aftercare section of the Environmental Management Act starts. The aim is to establish how the aftercare section can be amended to reflect current practice as well as the needs and wishes of the sector. The evaluation is particularly important to the landfill sector in relation to the financing of the perpetual aftercare of landfills that have not yet been closed.



Government-wide programme on the circular economy

The Dutch government publishes its government-wide programme on the circular economy. To make the Dutch economy fully circular by 2050 – i.e. running on 100% recyclable raw materials – the government is drawing up a national circular economy agreement. Sharon Dijksma, environment minister, and Henk Kamp,

economic affairs minister, are making agreements with industry, government authorities and civil society on transitioning to a 100% circular economy. It is expected that a circular economy agreement will be signed in December. A transition agenda for five priority materials flows will be drawn up in the first half of 2017.



Waste Treatment BREF

The DWMA participates in the webinars held by the IPPC Bureau on the Waste Treatment BREF. Although the DWMA found it a useful exercise and was able to raise a number of important issues, the way the emission standards for the revised BREF were developed was not discussed during these sessions. This is a thorny issue for the waste sector, which is critical of the procedure for drafting the BREFs.

[more info](#) ▶

[continuation of Waste Treatment BREF \(July\)](#) ▶

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NWMP Steering Committee

The NWMP Steering Committee discusses the government-wide programme for the circular economy and the third NWMP, which is expected to enter the consultation stage on 26 September. The DWMA says it supports the government-wide programme and highlights the need to stimulate demand for secondary raw materials and provide the necessary human and financial resources to implement the programme.

[continuation of NWMP Steering Committee \(June\) ▶](#)



Other Renewable Energy

One of the categories in the Energy Agreement is 'Other Renewable Energy'. To achieve the 2020 target for this category, development of these sources will have to be speeded up, so the government has established five 'acceleration platforms'. The DWMA is involved in two of these platforms. The platforms make plans for achieving the targets that do not involve making any significant changes to existing policy instruments.



Struvite under NSRR

Struvite is added as a secondary raw material to the international Green Deal on the North Sea Resources Roundabout (NSRR) signed in March. A working group of French and Dutch experts will focus on removing obstacles to the use of struvite in its crystalline form. The initiators hope that this

case will be the first step towards a European market for struvite. After recovery, the mineral can be processed for use in fertilisers.

[more info ▶](#)

[continuation of Green Deal North Sea Resources Roundabout \(March\) ▶](#)



Waste disposal charge rises

The Tax Plan 2017 includes an increase in the waste disposal charge of 1.15 euros to compensate for the loss in revenue caused by the introduction of the zero tariff export duty. It surprises the DWMA that the government intends to recoup this 'lost' revenue from waste treatment companies, because it only

enhances the effect that an export duty should prevent. As long as the export duty is not imposed and it is not yet possible in some situations to pass on the waste disposal charge to the discarder, the DWMA rejects the increase.

[continuation of Letter on setting export duty to zero \(April\) ▶](#)

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Recycling calculation methods

At the invitation of the DWMA, representatives of the Flemish public waste agency OVAM, the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment and its executive agency Rijkswaterstaat, and the European Commission visit a plastic recycling company in Limburg.

The purpose of the visit is to obtain a clear grasp of what would be the most suitable method for calculating recycling rates.

[more info ▶](#)

[continuation of Recycling calculation methods \(May\) ▶](#)



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Objection to information request declared well-founded

The environment minister, Sharon Dijksma, declares the objection made by the DWMA and some of its members to a request under the Government Information (Public Access) Act to be well-founded. Dijksma concludes that the economic interests of the businesses are more important and that the data on the amounts of waste materials received for treatment do not have to be made public.

continuation of Interim injunction granted (May) ▶



Collection of plastic packaging

The Association for Refuse and Cleansing Management (NVRD), the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG) and the DWMA respond to critical reports in the media about the collection of plastic packaging waste via the 'Plastic Heroes' collection bag system. The organisations produce statistics to show that the system works. They also insist that they are working hard to improve performance through a combination of smart collection systems to raise the quality of the collected plastic to make recycling easier and reduce costs.



MeBR Steering Group

For the first time the More and Better Recycling (MeBR) Steering Group is chaired by Dick Hoogendoorn, managing director of the DWMA, who takes over the chair for the next six months. The Steering Group discusses coordination with the Confederation of Netherlands Industry and Employers (VNO-NCW), the government-

wide programme for the circular economy and the MeBR project 'Increasing sorting efficiency'. A number of members of the Steering Group express doubts about the effectiveness of this project and it is agreed to wind up the project without any additional budget.

continuation of MeBR Steering Group (July) ▶



Safety First directors meeting

The Safety First directors meeting discusses the Industrial Safety Vision 2030, Safety Day 2016, the Safety Deals regulations and the membership rate. The number of DWMA companies covered by the Major Accidents (Risks) Decree (Brzo) is growing. All these new Brzo companies will be joining Safety First, which means that the proportion of DWMA's Brzo companies taking part in the

programme will continue to be 100%. The DWMA is looking into the possibility for a Safety Deal on raising awareness about safe packing and transport of hazardous waste. Under the Safety Deals, which are part of the Safety First programme, companies and government invest in improved safety in the chemicals chain.

continuation of Launch of Safety First (March) ▶

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Waste Conference 2016

The DWMA, the Association for Refuse and Cleansing Management (NVRD) and the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment host the annual Waste Conference at Galgenwaard Stadium, Utrecht. The conference is chaired by Mathijs Bouman. The waste industry's future is

bright, as the circular economy, the Paris Climate Agreement and the new Sustainable Development Goals all imply an important role for the industry. The main concern is the market for secondary raw materials.

[continuation of Waste Conference 2016 \(January\) ▶](#)



Carbon capture and reuse

The DWMA and the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment discuss the possibilities of carbon capture and reuse by members of the DWMA. For example, CO₂ can be recovered from biogas and flue gas for use by greenhouse horticulture, industry and the transport sector. It is agreed to investigate how such initiatives can be incorporated into policy for the transition to a circular economy.



National Energy Outlook

The National Energy Outlook is published. According to the authors, the target of 16% renewable energy in 2023 is within reach. Between 1990 and 2020 greenhouse gas emissions will have been reduced by 23%, which is more than previously expected.



Ecotoxic property HP 14

The proposal by the European Commission on the classification approaches for hazard property HP 14 (ecotoxicity) is voted down by the Technical Adaptation Committee. The European industry associations and the DWMA argue for a risk assessment based on leaching behaviour and not on the total composition of the substance as proposed by the Commission. The Dutch government supports the argument for using this method, which reflects current practice.

[continuation of Ecotoxic property HP 14 \(May\) ▶](#)



FEAD General Council

The FEAD General Council meeting is almost entirely devoted to the EU's Circular Economy Package. The Council calls for further consideration to be given to the methodology for calculating recycling rates and draws attention to the need to implement the action programme soon in the interests of ensuring a market for secondary raw materials.

[continuation of FEAD General Council \(March\) ▶](#)

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Sustainable Landfill Management Steering Group

The Sustainable Landfill Management Steering Group meets for the first time. It discusses its tasks and competences, the project group's work programme and progress with the pilot projects. Part of the meeting is held jointly with the project group.

 continuation of Official start of the Sustainable Landfill Management pilot projects (July) ►



Organic matter manifesto

Twenty-nine organisations call upon the Dutch parliament to use the 6th Nitrate Directive Action Programme to improve the position of organic matter in the Dutch fertiliser legislation. The manifesto

'Organic Matter: bringing life to Dutch soils' sets out the vision of the partner organisations. The DWMA is one of the signatories

[more info ►](#)



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Safety First Safety Day 2016

The Safety First campaign's fifth Safety Day is held on 3 November in Amersfoort. The theme is 'communication' and many personal experiences are aired. The event is attended by about 200 people.

continuation of Safety First directors meeting (October) ▶



GrondstoffenPoort

The second GrondstoffenPoort meeting of the year is held in the Nieuwspoor media centre in The Hague. The guest speaker is the environment minister, Sharon Dijksma. She explains the government-wide programme on the circular economy. Two members of parliament give their reactions to a number of statements.

continuation of GrondstoffenPoort (June) ▶



Representations on National Waste Management Plan 3

The DWMA gives its consultation response to the draft National Waste Management Plan 2017-2023 (NWMP3). The DWMA and its members assessed the plan on how it would contribute to creating a circular economy, with a focus

continuation of NWMP Steering Committee (September) ▶



Political parties embrace the circular economy

An analysis of the election manifestos reveals that the circular economy is a political priority in the Netherlands. Common

themes in the manifestos are carbon reduction, unduly restrictive regulations, packaging and innovation.



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Incineration residues 2015

The DWMA publishes the 2015 data on the arisings and uses of residues from the incineration of waste, bio-mass and sewage treatment sludge.



Discussions between ITAD and DWMA

Members of the German association of waste-to-energy plants ITAD and the DWMA's Waste-to-Energy Section work on the final details of the cooperation agreement they want to sign at the beginning of 2017. The organisations want to exchange information and expertise and where possible support each other's research and European lobby and advocacy activities.

continuation of Dutch-German collaboration (February) ▶



Outcome of the Energy Dialogue

The minister of economic affairs, Henk Kamp, informs the House of Representatives about the results of the three month Energy Dialogue on the future of the Dutch energy system that the environment, economic affairs and foreign ministries have conducted with civil society and the public. Kamp states that the outcome gives a highly diverse picture and sends out a powerful signal to continue with the Energy Agreement for Sustainable Growth

continuation of Role of the waste sector in the energy transition (May) ▶



No increase in waste disposal charge

During the debate on the Tax Plan 2017 the House of Representatives adopts the amendment by the VVD (Liberals) and PvdA (Labour) to scrap the proposed 1.15 euro increase in the waste disposal charge. As long as there is no effective export duty policy the sector does not

support any increase in the rate or scope of the waste disposal charge, because it damages not only the sustainability but also the competitive position of the Dutch waste sector.

continuation of Waste disposal charge rises (September) ▶



Sustainable landfill management in Europe

The DWMA talks to DG research about the opportunities sustainable landfill management offers towards meeting European waste targets. They explore possibilities for cooperation on innovative and sustainable solutions.

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Annual General Meeting

The DWMA Annual General Meeting is held at Van Scherpenzeel in Utrecht. The host introduces his company and gives a tour, which features the installation for processing confidential materials. The meeting discusses the Annual Report for 2015, the Budget and Contribution for 2015, the composition of the board and changes in membership. Jeroen de Swart of AEB, Evert van Vliet of Teeuwissen and Marc Kapiteijn of Twence join the board in 2017.



Session on safety

Following the Annual General Meeting, the DWMA holds a session on safe working practices. In his presentation, Michaël van Hulst, managing director of Shanks Netherlands Commercial Waste Division and chair of the Health and Safety Catalogue for the Waste Sector Foundation (StAA), stresses the importance of safe working practices and the crucial role supervisors and managers have to play. The Shanks film on safety was shown at the session.



EuroDay 2016

The DWMA and Go4Circle (previously FEBEM) hold EuroDay 2016 in Brussels on 22 November in cooperation with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Permanent Representations of the Netherlands and

Belgium. The main theme is the circular economy. Examples of good practice show that waste companies and governments are busy innovating and investing in the circular economy.

[more info](#) ▶



Waste Processing in the Netherlands 2015 published

The Waste Registration Working Group publishes the report 'Waste Processing in the Netherlands 2015', which contains the waste processing statistics for 2015. The amounts of food and green waste composted/digested and residual waste incinerated in 2015 were more or less the same as in the previous year. The volume of landfilled waste fell by 6%.



Chair of the Waste-to-Energy Section

The Waste-to-Energy Section appoints Marc Kapiteijn, CEO of Twence, as the new section chair.

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Publication on machine maintenance

The Health and Safety Catalogue for the Waste Sector Foundation sends waste companies a publi-

cation on machine maintenance. The publication contains guidance on the risks associated with machine maintenance and how the Health and Safety Catalogue can help to reduce these risks. A poster and comic strip on the subject is included in the package. The StAA is evaluating how useful the publications and cartoons are for the companies concerned.



Discussions with GroenLinks

The DWMA meets in Brussels with the political adviser to MEP Bas Eickhout of the Dutch GroenLinks (GreenLeft) party about the Circular Economy Package and the importance of pull measures to stimulate the transition to the circular economy. They also discuss the package of measures on clean energy published by the European Commission at the end of November. This package contains proposals for revising the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Renewable Energy Directive.



Energy Agenda published

The Government publishes its Energy Agenda, which contains its vision and proposed measures for the period after 2023, when the current Energy Agreement comes to an end. It is a policy roadmap towards a low-carbon energy system. The Energy Dialogue was a major input to the Energy Agenda.

continuation of Outcome of the Energy Dialogue (November) ▶



P90 study

The energetic and mechanical measurements for the P90 study are completed. These form the basis for a draft guidance on physical workload during waste collection, which will be tested in five pilot projects from February 2017. After completion,

continuation of P90 study (June) ▶

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Evaluation of the Landfill (Aftercare) Act

The Steering Group discusses the initial results of the evaluation of the landfill aftercare section of the Environmental Management Act. To obtain a clear picture of the problem, discussions were held with all landfill operators and representatives from provincial governments and central government. Potential solutions will be explored in February 2017.

[continuation of Evaluation of the Landfill \(Aftercare\) Act \(September\) ▶](#)



Future of the Sewer Maintenance Section

Following several satisfactory discussions about the future of the Sewer Maintenance Section of the DWMA, most of the members decide to continue the section and devote renewed energy to various matters of concern to them, such as their relations with the municipalities and their representative agencies.



Sustainability of Solid Biomass report

The Bioenergy Platform publishes the 'Voluntary report on woody biomass for energy generation 2015'. Under the Green Deal on Sustainability of Solid Biomass 2012–2014, reports are published each year on the characteristics of this biomass to ensure



transparency on the sustainability of solid biomass for energy applications in the Netherlands. The signatories to the Green Deal in the bioenergy sector, which includes the DWMA, want to continue these reports following the completion of the Green Deal itself. The Bioenergy Platform has taken over the responsibility for publishing the reports.

[continuation of Sustainability of Solid Biomass III \(March\) ▶](#)



Evaluation of SDE+

The minister of economic affairs, Henk Kamp, informs the House of Representatives about the results of the evaluation of the sustainable energy incentive scheme SDE+. The researchers found that the scheme has stimulated investments in renewable energy and is more effective than its predecessors.

[continuation of Evaluation of the SDE+ \(June\) ▶](#)



Organic matter improves soil resilience

Initial results of the research into the added value of turning organic residual streams into materials for raising soil resilience are promising.

[continuation of Soil resilience additives from organic residual streams \(April\) ▶](#)

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