



FEAD BULLETIN N° 56 - 05 November 2021

Communication, Networking and Future Events

- 04 November 2021: FEADs secretary-general Valérie Plainemaison was interviewed by a journalist from Politico Europe about the potential rise of lithium-ion battery fires — particularly in landfill/ during waste management processes — across Europe and how best to tackle the issue. Contact of other members given for complementary interview. The article will be published next week.
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Ongoing Surveys and Consultations

- **Amendment to Annex IV and V POP Regulation:**
 - The Commission has opened for feedback a **Proposal for a Regulation amending Annexes IV and V to Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 of the European Parliament and of the Council on persistent organic pollutants.**
 - Please provide us with your feedback until 3rd December 2021.
- **General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER):**
 - 6th October, the Commission has opened the public consultation on the **draft General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER).**

- It widens up the scope of existing provisions on aid for recycling and reutilisation of waste, by also covering investment aid for other investments that aim at increasing the level of resource efficiency or contributing to the transition towards a circular economy.
- FEAD has prepared a [draft response](#) and sent it to members. Please provide us with **your feedbacks by the 15th of November**.

FEAD attended the Ad-hoc meeting of the CAs for the REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) and CLP (Classification, Labelling and Packaging) Regulations (CARACAL) on Annex VIII and Online Sales, on the 27th of October 2021. Please find the prepared minutes [here](#).

Monitoring of EU Institutions

Life of EU institutions

- **new regulatory framework for batteries:**
 - 3rd November 2021: The European parliament's IMCO Committee is scheduled to consider compromise amendments on 8 November 2021.
 - FEAD is preparing replies to the work of the ENVI committee of the European parliament.
- **Classification for environmental toxicity of lead:**
 - ECHA (European Chemicals Management Agency) finalised a proposal opinion indicating that **lead in metallic form** should be classified as **very ecotoxic for the environment**. In particular, this means that any material containing **more than 2.5 ppm of lead** (*be it under massive or powder form*) would be classified, if the proposal is adopted, while the List of Waste Regulation (2000/532/EC) currently explicitly exempts metal alloys in their massive form from the concentration limits set in Annex III of the WFD on hazardous waste.

- This would have consequences on: recycled aluminium used in primary production, tin recycling, zinc scrap recycling, lead-acid batteries recycling, classification of residues
 - **9th November: exchange between the ILA and stakeholders (online) on next steps.**
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Press Review & Reports

COP26:

On 31st October 2021 the UN climate change conference started in Glasgow. Main points so far are:

- Methane pledge: The EU and the US officially launched their [initiative to cut methane emissions](#) by 30% in the next decade. The pledge has gained the support of 103 other countries. In total, signatories represent two-thirds of the global economy. [Here](#) you can find the Commission's press release.
- Push for carbon pricing: At an event earlier this week, von der Leyen stressed the importance of the EU emissions trading system in driving down emissions, and briefly discussed the Commission's plans for a carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM). See the review of the event [here](#).

Euractiv special report: sustainable sourcing of batteries

- The battery market is currently dominated by Asia, but the EU hopes that new laws setting strict green criteria for batteries sold in Europe will boost domestic production and help the continent to stake its place as a global leader.
 - In this [special report](#), EURACTIV looks at Europe's push for sustainable, ethically produced batteries, and how the raw materials needed to power these batteries can be sourced responsibly.
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Webinars & Conferences

- **Working towards a stronger circular economy – how much regulation is needed? – Tuesday, 09 November 2021 | 09:30 – 10:45 CET**
 - An EURACTIV Virtual Conference to discuss the EU's Circular Economy Action Plan and whether its new initiatives, such as the digital product passport, will achieve the transparency for products that policymakers are looking for. And how easy will it be for industry, big and small, to comply with?
 - If interested, you may [register here](#).
 - **“Review” of the Concessions Directive online event – Monday, 15 November 2021 | 10:00 – 16:00 CET**
 - DG GROW is organising an online event about the “review” of the Concessions Directive. The meeting will start with a morning session (10:00 to 12:00) regarding the implementation and functioning of the Concessions Directive. The afternoon session (14:30 to 16:00) will focus on the exclusion of the water sector from the Directive.
 - More information, [here](#).
 - If interested, you may [register here](#).
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FEAD website - Reminder

- **Go to your Member Area (<https://fead.be/index.php> > “Members Only”)**
- **Enter your login and password** (Please ask your login and password to info@fead.be if you forgot it)
- **Go to “Active Files” and here you have access to all files followed by FEAD Secretariat. We keep it updated!**
- **Frequency of FEAD Bulletin:** The bulletin will be sent maximum once per week, but without a minimum if it not necessary. If there is a slow week with no new relevant information, then we deem that it is not necessary to send it.

For further information or enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the FEAD Secretariat at info@fead.be