

Press statement

For an ambitious EU Waste policy review

Brussels, 28 April 2014: In light of the upcoming review of EU waste legislation, the **European Aluminium Association (EAA)** calls for higher recycling targets and a phase out of landfilling of end-use recyclable goods.

The European aluminium industry strongly supports more ambitious recycling targets and a gradual phasing out of landfilling. Together with better collection schemes and innovative sorting technologies, these are the preconditions for an effective and successful circular economy.

EAA Director General Gerd Götz states:

“Bold policy measures are needed to secure the availability of aluminium scrap in Europe, a key resource for increasing recycling rates and one of Europe’s energy security components. We are calling for investment and innovation in the fields of collection and sorting, as well as greater consistency in reporting procedures, clearer definitions of recycling and the recognition of aluminium as a ‘permanent material’.

Stopping illegal scrap exports and reducing scrap leakage is also essential to reduce Europe’s dependency to resource and energy imports. The first and minimum step would be to set up credible metal scrap export monitoring systems.”

Recycling aluminium saves 95% of the energy needed for primary production. Because of its high scrap value the recycling of aluminium is economically viable and helps to reduce and even offset the extra investment costs of collection and sorting. Europe is the worldwide leader in the recycling of aluminium and to further increase recycling rates, scrap must remain as much as possible in Europe.

EAA full position paper featuring 6 key recommendations for an ambitious EU waste policy can be found on the European Aluminium Association [website](#).

About the European Aluminium Association:

The European Aluminium Association, founded in 1981, represents the whole value chain of the aluminium industry in Europe, from alumina and primary production to semi-finished, end-use products and recycling. The European aluminium industry directly employs about 255,000 people and yields an annual turnover of 36.8 billion €. *For information, please visit www.alueurope.eu*

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