

EU Taxonomy incorrectly classifies Solvent-based Purification as Chemical Recycling!

Continuous confusion of physical & chemical processes for Plastic Waste Recovery

5 projects "NONTOX, Circular Flooring, CREAToR, PLAST2bCLEANED and REACT" funded by the EU Commission have joined forces to increase awareness of the benefits of implementing the principles of **Circularity** and developed a **Policy Brief** with **6 Recommendations**.



Recommendation 2 - Qualify Solvent-based Purification / Dissolution Recycling as "Physical Recycling" in the Taxonomy Climate Delegate Act

The EU taxonomy is a classification system for environmentally sustainable economic activities and is intended to help the EU scale up sustainable investments and achieve its Green Deal targets. The taxonomy gives companies, investors and policymakers clear definitions for economic activities considered environmentally sustainable.

It is necessary to add solvent-based purification/dissolution recycling and to classify it correctly as "physical recycling" in the Taxonomy Climate Delegated Act because it does not alter the polymeric structure. It has a higher separation selectivity than mechanical recycling and allows the reuse of polymers, thus making a significant contribution to each of the six goals.



What is the benefit of the **EU Taxonomy** as implementation tool when it ignores Natural Sciences, **confuses physical (reuse of polymers)** and **chemical (cracking of polymers) processes** and **does not even reflect the views of the EU Commission** or its services?

Who would take investment decisions based on this?



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Manufacture of plastics in primary form shall comply with at least one of the following three criteria and when relevant with the additional criteria, reported below:

- 1) The plastics in primary form is manufactured by **mechanical recycling**
- 2) The plastics in primary form is manufactured by **chemical recycling** including: chemical depolymerisation (aka monomerisation), pyrolysis, gasification, **solvent-based purification of polymers** etc.. When applying criterion 2, the carbon footprint of the plastics in primary form, manufactured by chemical recycling (excluding any calculated benefit from the production of fuels), shall be lower when compared to the carbon footprint of the plastics in primary form manufactured with fossil fuel feedstock. The carbon footprint shall be calculated in accordance with ISO 14067:2018 and validated by a third party.
- 3) Manufacture of plastics in primary form shall be wholly or partially derived from renewable feedstock and the carbon footprint of the plastics in primary form, manufactured wholly or partially from renewable feedstock shall be lower when compared to the carbon footprint of the plastics in primary form manufactured with fossil fuel feedstock. The carbon footprint shall be

EU Taxonomy (page 10)
The EU Taxonomy is an **implementation tool** that can enable capital markets to identify and respond to investment opportunities that contribute to **environmental policy objectives**.