

Mining waste represents 30 per cent of the total waste volume generated in the EU. The circular economy needs to tackle this problem from a life-cycle perspective. The waste framework directive has already paved the way for establishing a level playing field, which is crucial for the establishment of a secondary raw materials market.

Technological developments vary between the member states. Waste in one member state could be considered a valuable resource in another. Therefore, we must develop harmonised criteria across the EU to foster the prolongation of certain materials' shelf life.

I welcome the best available techniques reference document that is being developed by the Commission, since there have been significant technological advances since the mining waste directive saw the light of day. This document should take into account the circular economy.

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