



**2023/0373(COD)**

21.2.2024

# **OPINION**

of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

for the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council  
on preventing plastic pellet losses to reduce microplastic pollution  
(COM(2023)0645 – C9-0378/2023 – 2023/0373(COD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Maria Spyraiki

PA\_Legam

## AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy calls on the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, as the committee responsible, to take the following into account:

### Amendment 1

#### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 32

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) **in** the pellet supply chain should comply with the relevant obligations laid down in this Regulation, **however they could face** proportionally higher costs **and difficulties when complying with some of the obligations**. The Commission should raise awareness among economic operators and carriers regarding the necessity of preventing pellet losses. Additionally, the Commission should develop training materials to assist **them** in fulfilling their obligations, particularly with respect to the requirements of the risk assessment. Member States should provide access to information and assistance regarding compliance with obligations and the risk assessment requirements. Regarding the assistance of Member States, this could include technical **and financial** support **as well as** specialised training to **SMEs**. Member States actions should be taken in respect of applicable State aid rules.

*Amendment*

(32) **As** micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) **account for an important share of** the pellet supply chain, **they** should comply with the relevant obligations laid down in this Regulation, **while taking into consideration the possible different challenges in compliance and the possible** proportionally higher costs. The Commission **and the competent authorities** should raise awareness among economic operators and carriers regarding the necessity of preventing pellet losses. Additionally, the Commission **and the competent authorities** should develop training materials, **in consultation with all relevant stakeholders**, to assist **economic operators and carriers** in fulfilling their obligations, particularly with respect to the requirements of the risk assessment. **This should be done by taking into account the non-binding Recommendation adopted by the parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)**. Member States should provide access to information and assistance regarding compliance with obligations and the risk assessment requirements. Regarding the assistance of Member States, this could include technical support **and** specialised training to **all personnel handling pellets, as well as financial support and access to finance for micro and small enterprises as well as for installations handling plastic pellets in smaller quantities**. Member

States actions should be taken in respect of applicable State aid rules.

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The Commission shall develop awareness raising and training material on the sound implementation of the obligations laid down in this Regulation in consultation with representatives of economic operators, carriers, and certifiers, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and in collaboration with competent authorities.

*Amendment*

1. ***By 6 months after the entry into force of this Regulation***, the Commission shall develop awareness raising and training material on the sound implementation of the obligations laid down in this Regulation. ***This shall be done by taking into account the non-binding Recommendation adopted by the parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)***, in consultation with representatives of economic operators, carriers, and certifiers, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, ***social partners, civil society representatives, non-governmental organisations*** and in collaboration with competent authorities. ***Funds for vocational training will be made available to develop training materials, which may take the form of guides and courses, make use of a range of formats and delivery methods, and shall be designed to maximise reach and accessibility to enable effective uptake from the targeted sector.***

## Amendment 3

### Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Member States shall ensure that economic operators and carriers, ***especially micro***,

*Amendment*

Member States shall ensure that economic operators and carriers get access to

*small and medium-sized enterprises*, get access to information and assistance regarding compliance with this Regulation.

information and assistance regarding compliance with this Regulation.

#### Amendment 4

##### Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Without prejudice to applicable state aid rules, the assistance referred to in the first subparagraph may take the form of:

*Amendment*

Without prejudice to applicable state aid rules, the assistance referred to in the first subparagraph **for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises** may take the form of:

#### Amendment 5

##### Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2 – point -a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**-a specialised management and staff training, including the organization of training sessions;**

#### Amendment 6

##### Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2 – point -a a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**-a a organisational and technical assistance.**

#### Amendment 7

##### Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***In addition, without prejudice to applicable state aid rules, the assistance referred to in the first subparagraph for micro and small enterprises as well as for installations handling plastic pellets in quantities below the threshold described in article 4 para 2 may also take the form of:***

## **Amendment 8**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

access to finance;

(b) access to finance, ***including to support the acquisition of equipment required to achieve compliance;***

## **Amendment 9**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(c) ***specialised management and staff training;*** ***deleted***

## **Amendment 10**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2 – point d**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(d) ***organisational and technical assistance.*** ***deleted***

## Amendment 11

### Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Member States shall **encourage** training programmes for the qualification of certifiers' personnel.

*Amendment*

3. Member States shall **ensure the availability of** training programmes for the qualification of certifiers' personnel.

## Amendment 12

### Proposal for a regulation Article 17 – paragraph 2 – point d

*Text proposed by the Commission*

the specific needs of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.

*Amendment*

(d) the specific needs **and structural constraints** of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.

**ANNEX: ENTITIES OR PERSONS  
FROM WHOM THE RAPPORTEUR FOR THE OPINION HAS RECEIVED INPUT**

Pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure, the rapporteur for the opinion declares that she has received input from the following entities or persons in the preparation of the opinion, until the adoption thereof in committee:

<b>Entity and/or person</b>
Plastics Recyclers Europe
EURIC
EUPC
SURFRIDER
CEPI
European Plastics Converters
Plastics Europe
Surfrider Foundation Europe
Seas-at-risk

The list above is drawn up under the exclusive responsibility of the rapporteur for the opinion.



## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Title</b>	Preventing plastic pellet losses to reduce microplastic pollution
<b>References</b>	COM(2023)0645 – C9-0378/2023 – 2023/0373(COD)
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	ENVI 23.11.2023
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	ITRE 23.11.2023
<b>Associated committees - date announced in plenary</b>	14.12.2023
<b>Rapporteur for the opinion</b> Date appointed	Maria Spyraiki 4.12.2023
<b>Date adopted</b>	14.2.2024
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 49 –: 1 0: 1
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Hildegard Bentele, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Marc Botenga, Markus Buchheit, Cristian-Silviu Buşoi, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Beatrice Covassi, Josianne Cutajar, Nicola Danti, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Martina Dlabajová, Francesca Donato, Christian Ehler, Niels Fuglsang, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Christophe Grudler, Henrike Hahn, Robert Hajšel, Ivars Ijabs, Andrius Kubilius, Marisa Matias, Eva Maydell, Georg Mayer, Marina Measure, Ville Niinistö, Johan Nissinen, Mauri Pekkarinen, Mikuláš Peksa, Morten Petersen, Clara Ponsatí Obiols, Manuela Ripa, Robert Roos, Sara Skytvedal, Maria Spyraiki, Grzegorz Tobiszowski, Isabella Tovaglieri, Pernille Weiss, Carlos Zorrinho
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Laura Ballarín Cereza, Klemen Grošelj, Martin Hojsík, Adam Jarubas, Alin Mituța, Ivan Štefanec, Angelika Winzig
<b>Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote</b>	João Albuquerque, Robert Biedroń, Maria Grapini, Catherine Griset, Niclas Herbst

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

49	+
ECR	Johan Nissinen, Robert Roos, Grzegorz Tobiszowski
ID	Markus Buchheit, Catherine Griset, Georg Mayer
NI	Clara Ponsatí Obiols
PPE	Hildegard Bentele, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Cristian-Silviu Buşoi, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Christian Ehler, Niclas Herbst, Adam Jarubas, Andrius Kubilius, Eva Maydell, Sara Skyttedal, Maria Spyrali, Ivan Štefanec, Pernille Weiss, Angelika Winzig
Renew	Nicola Danti, Martina Dlabajová, Klemen Grošelj, Christophe Grudler, Martin Hojsík, Ivars Ijabs, Alin Mituța, Mauri Pekkarinen, Morten Petersen
S&D	João Albuquerque, Laura Ballarín Cereza, Robert Biedroń, Beatrice Covassi, Josianne Cutajar, Niels Fuglsang, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Maria Grapini, Robert Hajšel, Carlos Zorrinho
The Left	Marc Botenga, Marisa Matias, Marina Mesure
Verts/ALE	Henrike Hahn, Ville Niinistö, Mikuláš Peksa, Manuela Ripa

1	-
NI	Francesca Donato

1	0
ID	Isabella Tovaglieri

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention