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## **RREUSE reaction to withdrawal of Circular Economy Package**

Jean Claude Juncker's withdrawal of the Circular Economy Package from the EU Commission's work plan is difficult to comprehend given its potential to create 180,000 jobs, reduce Europe's demand on imported raw materials and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 443 million tonnes between 2014 and 2030.

Whilst Vice President Timmermans has announced the withdrawal of proposed changes to EU waste legislation in favour of more "more broad and ambitious" proposals to be made in 2015, RREUSE remains sceptical that these will be over and above the ambition that has been on the table.

The decision goes against widespread support from industry, civil society and trade unions to keep July's proposals on the table and discussed according to established procedures. The package also had the support of 11 Member States, including Germany, Greece France, Italy and Spain, and Members of the European Parliament, who also sent letters urging the Commission not to withdraw the proposal. This contradicts the argument used by Juncker's Commission to withdraw the legislation for not having a "realistic chance of being adopted".

Halting discussions between the EU Parliament and EU Council on revising the Waste Framework, Landfill and Packaging Directives, in accordance with legal revision clauses, is not an effective and efficient strategy for creating significant employment opportunity in Europe.

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