

Landfill Aftercare in Wallonia

Legal aspects

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Workshop "Landfill mining policies" Engelskirchen, October 22nd, 2019









Legal Framework - Aftercare



Walloon policies regarding Landfill mining



Conclusion

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Nalloon policies regarding Landfill mining





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Scientific Institute working on behalf of the Walloon Administration

Management of the landfill monitoring network

- Since 1998
- For the Environmental Police Dpt
- Non dangerous/inert/industrial landfill
- Environmental impact assessment
- Validation of monitoring performed by the owners

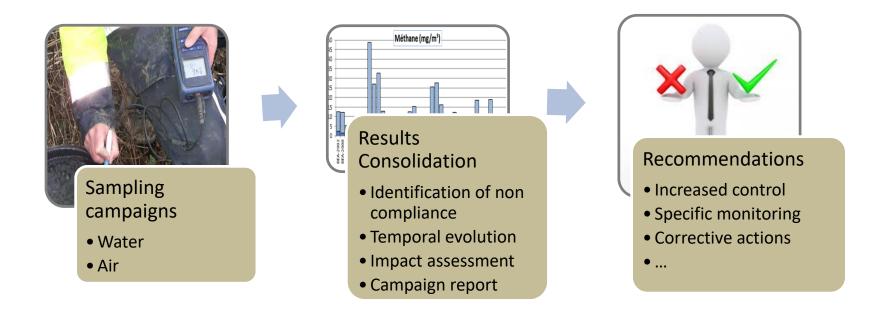
Landfill and old dumpsite aftercare

- Since 2016
- Methodology to assess the possibility to cease/to modify landfill aftercare (decisional flowcharts)
- Criteria to shift towards more passive aftercare activities



To adapt current law !

<u>The landfill monitoring network</u> – The entire value chain



+ Database including all the results of the monitoring performed by the owners for liquid matrix (since 1999 !) (leachate, WWTP discharge, groundwater, surface water)





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Sanitary landfills vs Old dumpsites ?





Sectoral Conditions related to the operation of landfills (AGW 27/02/2003)

All the landfill sites in operation in 1999 and listed in the « Sanitary landfill plan »

Waste Decrete (27/06/1996)

Dumpsites operated before 1999 and non listed in the « Sanitary landfill plan »



Sanitary landfills and controlled dumpsites (Sectoral Conditions)

Current situation and reglementation :

- Landfill emissions stabilized at levels that are **not** compliant with their local environment (even after 30 years of aftercare)
- No clear indications of when aftercare can be ceased ...
 « until the landfill do not pose any threat to the environment and human health »



Decisional flowchart to cease/modify aftercare activities





Sanitary landfills and controlled dumpsites (Sectoral Conditions)

A very tricky situation !!

- Current reglementation does not fit anymore with field constraints For example : How to manage residual production of methane ?
- Difficulty to set general criteria for site-specific evaluation

What about risk evaluation ?

- Guidelines and criteria
 - Hierarchisation of emission management practices
 - Criteria allowing alternative treatment of biogas (other than combustion) or leachate
 - Standards to be met at compliance and exposure points



Sanitary landfills and controlled dumpsites (Sectoral Conditions)



Modification of the reglementation



- Taking into account the evolution of landfilling pratices and knowledge
- Including decisional flowcharts, guidelines and criteria to manage end-of-life of landfills and controlled dumpsites

Due date : end 2019 – beginning 2020

"Old dumpsite" (Waste Decrete)

- Several and successive modifications of the reglementation led to a legal vacuum.
- Remediation only in case of "serious threat" !
- Regarding other dumpsites : no tool to manage aftercare



What about Landfill mining according to the walloon reglementation?





Sectoral Conditions

Landfill mining is not mentionned but...

Art. 36. [...] Waste recovery on the landfill is forbidden but the specific operating conditions can set valorisation conditions (on site or offsite) as long as the **environmental benefit is demonstrated** by the owner.

Waste Decrete

Currently, no mention of the landfill mining...

Modification of the Waste Decrete (ongoing) → remediation of old dumpsites through waste recovery and valorisation !





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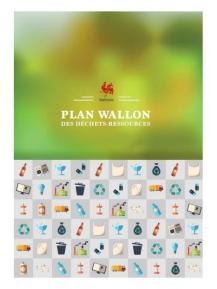
Walloon policies regarding Landfill mining







Walloon Waste and Resources Plan (March 22, 2018)



Framework and vision of Wallonia for the waste policy that will be carried out over the forthcoming years.

LFM is included in the **central ideas** of the Plan (circular economy, waste to resources) as :

"Measure to recover certain waste currently not operated - for example, landfill mining - or to redirect waste towards more efficient sectors [...]."



Walloon Waste and Resources Plan (March 22, 2018)





But also in the chapter dedicated to landfill aftercare !

Among different options such as :

- Activation of waste stabilisation
- Putting a time limit for operator's liability
- Improvement of bonding mechanism

The ability of the landfills to landfill mining and / or the profitability of the operation will be established on a case-by-case basis, but a coordinated reflection of Wallonia in this context seems essential.





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Wallonia keeps door open for landfill mining !

- Forthcoming review of the Sectoral Conditions
 - Amendments of the Waste Decrete
- Recent approval of the "Walloon Waste and Resources Plan"

+ "Green Deal" in the framework of Rawfill !!

But...

Much remains to be done in terms of communication and information !!

Thanks for your attention!

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Website of the Landfill Monitoring Network (in French): <u>http://environnement.wallonie.be/data/dechets/cet/</u>







