

Waste Quality Protocols Review - Quality Protocol: Tyre-derived rubber materials

- Call for evidence

Background

Quality Protocols (QPs) are end of waste frameworks that are used by Industry on a voluntary basis to identify the point at which waste, having been fully recovered, may be regarded as a non-waste product. This means the waste derived material can be used in specified markets without the need for waste regulation controls. The QPs are waste specific. We have started to review the QP for Tyre-derived rubber materials. We would like to hear Industry's views on how this QP is working and whether it meets Industry needs.

At this time we are purely gathering information and views which we will take into account when deciding whether to maintain or withdraw support, for the QP in its current form. If support is withdrawn OR it is deemed necessary to complete a revision of the QP then further, more detailed, calls for evidence will take place at that time.

What do we need?

We would like your views on the current QP as follows:

- Issues of clarity - Is the text of the QP clear?
- Any abuse of the QP that you are aware of - Please specify what the abuse is and if possible provide evidence.
- Are there any aspects of the QP that you find onerous to meet and why?
- Are there any aspects of the QPs that you find too lenient and why?
- As it stands, do you think that even if the QP is followed it nevertheless creates a risk to the environment and/or human health, if so why? Please provide evidence.
- Are there any new or developing waste processing technologies that could be included in the QP? These could be newly emerging technologies which have developed since the QP was published, or pre-existing technologies that were not included in the original QP. Please provide evidence of their efficacy.
- In relation to the QP are there any uses and/or new end product markets that have developed since original publication which could be added now?
- In relation to the QP has there been any revision of or developments relating to the product standards set out in the QP relevant to the use(s)? Have there been any new product standards published since original publication of the QP which you believe should be included?
- Are there any other relevant issues you wish to raise in relation to the QP?

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At this point no decision has been made as to whether we will continue or withdraw our support for this QP. We would like your input so we can take this into account when we make that decision.

As well as the responses to the above questions, we would appreciate your views on the QP specific issues previously raised by Environment Agency staff below. Any evidence you can provide to support your views would also be welcomed.

Tyre-derived rubber materials QP:

- Market -

Do you think there is a market for Tyre-derived rubber materials produce to the QP standard? What are these markets? Are there new markets that are not currently covered in the QP? What further limits or processing is required within the QP to help give market confidence for these end markets? Please provide details.

- Standard -

Is the PAS 107:2007 specification the most appropriate specification for materials produced under this QP? Are there other specifications which should be considered for inclusion? Please provide details.

- Scope -

Should the scope of the QP be extended so that it is not limited to tyre-derived rubber materials, for example to include other treatment processes such as the generation of tyre derived oils? Please provide details.

- Certification -

Is the current approach to evidence of conformance within the Tyre-derived rubber materials QP (e.g. certification) fit for purpose? If not, what amendments do you think need to be made? Please provide details.

- Export -

If you produced Tyre-derived rubber materials in 2019 or 2020 what percentage of your total output was exported? If you export tyre-derived rubber material do you obtain written approval from the competent authority in the country of receipt in accordance with paragraph 1.7.3 of the QP? If not, please explain why.

How to contribute

Please e-mail your comments/evidence to resourcesframeworks@environment-agency.gov.uk with the title "Tyre QP Comments" in the title/subject box. Note - all comments and evidence provided will be kept in strict confidence and will only be used to inform the review process.

The deadline for getting comments back to us is 18th June 2021.

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