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GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR INCINERATOR ALTERNATIVES  
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[About Gaia](#)

[Campaigns](#)

[Press Center](#)

[Resources](#)

[Action Alerts](#)

[Newsletter](#)

[Links](#)

[Members](#)

[How to Join?](#)

[Waste Not Asia 2004](#)



[Statements](#) | [Press Releases](#) | [Position Papers](#) | [GAIA in the News](#)

## MEPs Reject Proposal to Rebrand Incineration as Energy Recovery

**Brussels, 28 November, 2006.** Today, the European Parliament's Environment Committee committee voted against a controversial proposal to rebrand and effectively promote the incineration of waste.

The coalitions Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) and Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA) welcomed the decision.

The European Commission had proposed reclassifying incineration as a "recovery" rather than a "disposal" option, based on an energy efficiency threshold.

Dr. Cestmir Hrdinka, Executive Director of HCWH Europe, said, "HCWH and GAIA approached MEPs and warned them about accepting this proposal, because it would prevent reuse and recycling by making incineration the preferable option for dealing with waste.

"We welcome this result because, as the European Court of Justice has stated, the primary purpose of an incinerator is to dispose of waste, not to produce energy."

HCWH and GAIA have pointed out that the European Commission proposal to classify incinerators and disposal options is in contradiction with the European Court of Justice ruling (case C-458/00). This decision classifies dedicated municipal waste incinerators according to primary purpose, not energy efficiency, and therefore classifies incinerators as disposal operations.

"We hope that all MEPs will vote against the proposal to rebrand incinerators when the full plenary of the European Parliament takes place," added Hrdinka

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