



OXO-BIODEGRADABLE PLASTICS ASSOCIATION

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“Plastics Europe have no policy for plastic which gets into the outdoor environment”

<http://www.packagingeurope.com/Packaging-Europe-News/61203/PlasticsEuropes-Reaction-to-the-Agreement-on-Plastic-Bags.html>

The Oxo-biodegradable Plastics Association disagrees with Plastics Europe on oxo-biodegradable plastics. They have no expertise in this subject, and in fact, independent scientific studies by experts in oxo-biodegradable technology in France, Sweden, Italy, the UK, Brasil, Canada and Australia have all shown that the plastic is converted into biodegradable materials and not into fragments of plastic, and that the residues are not toxic.

See the latest statement by French scientists at

<http://www.biodeg.org/files/uploaded/French%20academics%20criticise%20EU%20for%20failing%20to%20understand%20oxo%20biodegradable%20plastics%2014.11.14.pdf>

Other independent scientific reports show that oxo-biodegradable plastic bags can be safely recycled into new plastic bags.

The OPA welcomes the Parliament’s request to the Commission to make a study of biodegradable plastics, and will participate fully in their study. They must consider all types of biodegradable plastics and not just oxo-biodegradable.

Plastics Europe and the EU have no policy for dealing with plastic which gets into the outdoor environment and cannot realistically be collected. They talk a lot about recycling, but you cannot recycle plastic if you cannot collect it. Plastics Europe represents the producers of plastic products, and the most serious criticism of those products is that they will lie or float around for decades if they get into the environment as litter. Oxo-biodegradability is the answer to this problem and it is time that Plastics Europe engaged with the oxo-biodegradable industry in the interests of its own members.

24th November 2014