Dialogue Forum Chemical Recycling

Significance of chemical recycling from the recycling industry point of view

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Description of the current situation
Volume of plastic waste in Germany 2019

Almost 100% of the production/processing waste volumes are already being recycled mechanically.
Description of the current situation
Recovery of post-consumer plastic waste

Post-consumer plastic waste 5,35 m t (100%*)

- Recovery 5,32 m t (99,4%)
- Disposal 0,03 m t (0,6%)

Energy recovery 3,25 m t (60,8%)
- Waste incineration plants 2,12 m t (39,6%)
- RDF/ SRF 1,13 m t (21,2%)

Recycling 2,06 m t (38,6%)
- Mechanical recycling 2,05 m t (38,4%)
- Feedstock recycling 0,01 m t (0,2%)

Potential for extending plastics recycling is huge

* slight rounding inaccuracies are unavoidable here
How to make usage of the huge potential?!
Recommendation for a waste hierarchy derived and in harmonisation with the EU WFD

The opportunities and challenges of chemical plastics recycling need to be discussed in an objective and openminded way on all relevant levels (politics, industry, science)
Conclusion

The significance of chemical plastics recycling for the recycling industry is manifold, branched and complex:

From an technical & ecological point of view we aiming for

- to use material flows more sensibly and environmentally consciously
- to keep carbon in circulation for as long as possible

From an economic and holistic point of view we aiming for

- to expand the customer relationships in the chemical, mineral oil and packaging industrie by adding a further chapter
- to offer a meaningful solution along the whole value chain of plastics recycling
  - developing chemical recycling complementary to the mechanical plastics recycling
  - closing additional (raw) material life cycles
Thank you very much for your attention!