



**Press Release**



## **Innovative project puts an end to PVC waste**

**Commission supports Danish project with more than 3 million € to carry out an industrial demonstration project for chemical recycling of PVC waste.**

Since 1998, the Danish company RGS 90 has made a great effort to develop a method for chemical recycling of PVC waste. RGS 90 has obtained financial support from the LIFE-programme under the European Union (EU). The financial support makes it possible to carry out a full-scale industrial demonstration project for chemical recycling of PVC waste into oil, salt and minerals. The design of the plant has been initiated with the Danish company COWI as the main consultant.

With a capacity of 13 tonnes PVC waste per hour, the plant will be erected near the Danish city of Skælskør. RGS 90 has already other waste treatment facilities placed at that location, and the PVC plant will be integrated with these treatment facilities. The process has shown ability to treat all types of PVC waste in full-scale tests.

Recycling of PVC waste is a focus area in European environmental policy. When PVC is incinerated, residual products are generated that are to be deposited as waste. Depositing of PVC waste may result in environmentally harmful substances in the water environment. Furthermore, it is a waste of resources to deposit a potential oil product.

One of the purposes of the LIFE-programme is to support the development of new innovative methods for waste handling. The European PVC industry also supports the project. By their direct support, the European Union and the PVC industry have demonstrated their interest in the results.

Introduced in 1992, LIFE, the Financial Instrument for the Environment is one of the spearheads of the European Union's environmental policy. It co-finances projects in three areas:

- LIFE-Nature actions aim at conservation of natural habitats and the wild fauna and flora
- LIFE-Environment supports the development of new methods for the protection and enhancement of the environment, and
- LIFE-Third Countries supports technical assistance for promoting sustainable development in third countries

Further information can be found in the attachment or you may contact:

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**More follows**