



Polska Izba Mleka Polish Chamber of Milk

PW/2018/10/28

Białystok, 22.10.2018

Mr Phil Hogan
EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development
European Commission
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200
1049 Brussels, Belgium

Dear Commissioner,

It has come to my attention that the European Parliament will vote on a new proposed EU directive on single use plastics in the Parliament's plenary taking place 22nd to 24th October. The outcome will constitute the basis for final negotiations among the European Institutions in which I understand you will be involved.

Although we share your strong support for the objectives of the proposal, we would like to draw your attention to some concerns we have about how these objectives are being pursued. As milk industry representatives, we are eager to take our responsibility and ensure that overall business meets expectations from an environmental perspective and that we actively contribute to minimise plastics leakage into the environment.

However, we are concerned by three specific points in the proposal:

1. **First, the inclusion of liquid food portion-packs (with regard and possible impact on milk and dairy products) within the scope of the consumption reduction targets for food packaging. The category is widely represented by milk and dairy beverages, including milk and flavored milk in carton portion packages with straws, being a key element of School Milk Programs successfully deployed and operating across EU in many Member States.**
2. Second, the rushed timescale within which many of the changes are to be introduced.
3. Third, the additional costs that potentially will be levied on dairy products

We all share the objective to minimise plastics pollution and use, we believe one should seek consistency in European legislation and ensure that the impact of any proposal isn't worse from an environmental perspective. To address this, we sincerely ask for your support in making appropriate amendments during Council deliberations on the single-use plastics proposal.

Respectfully
Agnieszka Maliszewska
Director of the Polish Chamber of Milk