



# Factsheet

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## Swiss Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (SwissPRTR)

SwissPRTR is the Swiss Pollutant Release and Transfer Register, open to public access. It provides information on releases of listed pollutants to air, water and soil, as well as transfers of waste and pollutants in wastewater. The SwissPRTR Register contributes to public information concerning the environmental situation and helps reduce impacts on the Swiss environment.

The **legal basis** of SwissPRTR is the Ordinance of 15 December 2006 on the Register relating to Pollutant Release and Transfer of Waste and Pollutants in Wastewater (**PRTR-V**).

## Checklist: Interpretation of the PRTR-V in the Field of Recycling and Treatment of Hazardous Wastes

### 1. Reporting Requirement in accordance with Annex 1 paragraph 5 let. a PRTR-V

#### 1.1 Fundamentals

According to Annex 1 para. 5 let. a PRTR-V, subject to reporting requirement are facilities which operate installations for the incineration, pyrolysis, **recovery**, chemical treatment or landfilling of **hazardous wastes** receiving 10 tonnes or more per day.

**Recycling** is defined as recovery in the PRTR-V. In accordance with Annex 1 para. 5 let. a PRTR-V only those **facilities which recycle hazardous wastes are subject to the obligation to report**.

Annex 3 PRTR-V lists the procedures which are considered recovery procedures. They are listed below, along with their corresponding LVA-Codes, according to Annex 2 LVA:

Recovery procedures in accordance with Annex 3 para. 2 PRTR-V	Recovery procedure code according to LVA, Annex 2
Use as a fuel (other than in direct incineration) or other means of generating energy	R1
Solvent reclamation/regeneration	R2
Recycling/reclamation of organic substances that are not used as solvents	R3
Recycling/reclamation of metals and metal compounds	R4
Recycling/reclamation of other inorganic materials	R5

<b>Recovery procedures in accordance with Annex 3 para. 2 PRTR-V</b>	<b>Recovery procedure code according to LVA, Annex 2</b>
Regeneration of acids or bases	R6
Recovery of components used for pollution abatement	R7
Reclamation of components from catalysts	R8
Used oil re-refining or other reuses of used oil	R9
Land treatment resulting in benefit to agriculture or ecological improvement	R10
Uses of residual materials obtained from any of the recovery procedures specified above	R11
Exchange of wastes for submission to any of the recovery procedures specified above	R12 <sup>a)</sup>
Accumulation of material intended for any of the procedures specified above	R13 <sup>b)</sup> (incl. R151, R152, R153)

<sup>a)</sup> In case of domestic commerce, the code R12 has to be replaced by the corresponding code R152 or R153 for statistical reasons

<sup>b)</sup> In case of domestic commerce, the code R13 has to be replaced by the corresponding code R151, R152 or R153 for statistical reasons

## 1.2 Reporting Requirement by Activity

Premise: Recycling facilities subject to the obligation to report must operate one or more installations corresponding to all the criteria specified in Annex 1 para. 5 let. a or let. g PRTR-V.

"Installations for the incineration, pyrolysis, recovery, chemical treatment, or landfilling of hazardous waste receiving 10 tonnes or more per day"

<b>Activity</b>	<i>Obligation to report in accordance with PRTR-V? Justification</i>
<b>Recycling facilities, in general</b>	Obligation to report only if the installation corresponds to all specifications mentioned in Annex 1 para. 5 let. a PRTR-V
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commerce of hazardous wastes</b></li> <li>• <b>Temporary storage of hazardous wastes</b></li> <li>• <b>Crushing and mechanical sorting of hazardous waste</b></li> <li>• <b>Sludge dehydration (hazardous waste)</b></li> <li>• <b>Mixing of hazardous wastes</b> (e.g. with</li> </ul>	Not subject to reporting: though these activities count as recovery procedures in accordance with Annex 3 para. 2 PRTR-V (LVA-Codes R12 or R 13 incl. R151 – R153), a facility is not subject to reporting when it only carries out these activities prior to recovery, but does not carry out the recovery procedure itself. Furthermore, obligation to report exists only for the handling of hazardous wastes.

<b>Activity</b>	<i>Obligation to report in accordance with PRTR-V? Justification</i>
sawdust) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Preparation of emulsions</b></li> <li>• <b>Filtration of liquid hazardous wastes</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Excavation of contaminated land/landfills</b>	Not subject to an obligation to report, since does not involve an installation which, in accordance with Annex 1 para. 5 let. a PRTR-V, is designed for recovery or land-filling of hazardous wastes.
<b>Composting</b>	Not subject to an obligation to report, since no recycling of hazardous waste occurs.
<b>Distillation of solvents</b>	Solvents are hazardous wastes. Distillation is listed explicitly in Annex 3 para. 2 PRTR-V as a recovery procedure. Obligation to report for plants receiving 10 t or more per day.
<b>Soil treatment plants (wet-mechanical, dry fractionating):</b>	<p>Acceptance of soils and production of recyclable fractions (such as recycled gravel) counts as recycling. Obligation to report only when hazardous wastes in accord. with VeVA are handled and for plants receiving 10 t or more per day of such wastes.</p> <p>(Soil materials already declared as residual substances count as hazardous wastes in accordance with VeVA.)</p>

## 2. Reporting Requirement in accordance with Annex 1 para. 5 let. g PRTR-V ?

"Independently operated industrial waste-water treatment plants that serve one or more activities described in Annex 1 PRTR-V and have a capacity of more than 10 000 m<sup>3</sup> per day"

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Obligation to report in accordance with PRTR-V? Justification</i>
<b>Wastewater treatment by waste material handlers</b>	Obligation to report according to Annex 1 para. 5 let. g PRTR-V, only if plant corresponds to all the specifications mentioned.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Obligation to report in accordance with PRTR-V? Justification</i>
<b>Wastewater treatment in waste material recovery plants</b>	Obligation to report only if plant corresponds to all specifications indicated in Annex 1 para. 5 let. g PRTR-V. Obligation to report may also apply according to specifications of Annex 1 para. 5 let. a PRTR-V.
<b>In-facility recycling of wastewater</b>	Wastewater streams entirely recycled within the facility are not subject to obligation to report, provided no releases occur.

### Abbreviations

LVA	Ordinance of the DETEC of 18 October 2005 concerning Lists for the Movements of Waste (SR 814.610.1).
PRTR-V	Ordinance of 15 December 2006 on the Register relating to Pollutant Release and the Transfer of Waste and of Pollutants in Wastewater.