

Brussels, 19 February 2024

To ABREN, the Brazilian Association for Energy Recovery of Waste

We, at **ESWET, the European association of suppliers of Waste-to-Energy (WtE) technology**, write this letter to express our full support for ABREN's endeavours, particularly your ongoing fact-finding mission to scientifically analyse methane leakages from dumpsites and technical landfills in Brazil. As a leading organisation representing the European industry, which is at the forefront globally in WtE technologies, we are keen to share insights, facts, figures, and arguments supporting the advancement and adoption of WtE solutions.

Waste-to-Energy technology is a critical component in the waste management hierarchy, positioned above landfilling, due to its multifaceted benefits to communities and the environment. WtE processes offer hygienisation, energy supply, and the recycling of resources, with the potential for negative CO₂ emissions. Studies have shown that incineration with energy recovery can significantly save greenhouse gas emissions by recovering energy from waste, which usually replaces an equivalent amount of energy generated from fossil fuels. This not only diverts waste from landfills but also contributes to sustainable development and reduced impacts on public health.

ESWET represents the pinnacle of European innovation and leadership in WtE technologies. Our members are committed to advancing WtE solutions that are environmentally friendly, efficient, and capable of meeting the modern challenges of waste management and energy recovery. The global reputation of European WtE technology suppliers is built on the most stringent environmental standards, technological innovation, and a commitment to sustainability.

We are deeply concerned about the continued reliance on landfilling for waste disposal in Brazil, especially given the availability of more sustainable waste management technologies. The unjustified perpetuation of landfill use, despite well-known environmental impacts, including significant methane emissions, is alarming. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, with a global warming potential many times that of CO₂, and its emissions from waste contribute significantly to climate change.

We commend ABREN's proactive approach to scientifically investigate methane leakages from landfills. Accurate data on methane emissions is crucial for developing strategies to mitigate these emissions and for informing policy decisions.

ESWET stands in full solidarity with ABREN and your mission to promote sustainable waste management practices in Brazil. We believe that through collaboration, knowledge exchange, and the implementation of advanced WtE technologies, we can make significant strides towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions, advancing energy recovery, and supporting Brazil's transition to more sustainable waste management practices.

Please find enclosed our recent report on the Integrated Resource-Recovery Facility, which highlights the full potential of the state-of-art WtE technologies, as supporting documentation for this letter.

Sincerely,



Dr. Siegfried Scholz
ESWET President



Patrick Clerens
ESWET Secretary General

ESWET members

