

EN

E-002247/2026

Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.8.2026)

The proposal to restrict lead in gunshot under the Regulation on Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH)¹ was supported by a qualified majority of Member States in the REACH Committee on 25 June 2026. It has been transmitted to the European Parliament and the Council for a 3-month scrutiny. If no objections are raised, the proposal can then be adopted.

Discarded lead ammunition may be considered waste to the extent it fulfils the definition of waste laid down in the EU waste legislation. Classification of such waste is subject to the provisions of Annex III to the Waste Framework Directive² and Commission Decision 2000/532/EC³ (establishing a List of Waste, LoW). It is up to the Member States how to apply and monitor the application of the LoW.

Under Article 14.1 of the Soil Monitoring Law⁴ Member States should systematically identify potentially contaminated sites and establish a list of potentially contaminating activities, which may include shooting ranges. Member States should ensure that those sites are investigated and that, in case of unacceptable risks, the appropriate risk reduction measures are taken. Articles 6 to 11 of the Soil Monitoring Law also require Member States to monitor and assess diffuse soil contamination by heavy metals, like lead, set sustainable targets and operational trigger values, and provide support to improve soil health and resilience.

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals, OJ L 396 30.12.2006, p. 1.

² Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste and repealing certain Directives, OJ L 312, 22.11.2008, p. 3–30, as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/851 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May, OJ L 150, 14.6.2018, p. 109–140 and Directive (EU) 2025/1892 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 September 2025, OJ L, 2025/1892, 26.9.2025.

³ Commission Decision of 3 May 2000 replacing Decision 94/3/EC establishing a list of wastes pursuant to Article 1(a) of Council Directive 75/442/EEC on waste and Council Decision 94/904/EC establishing a list of hazardous waste pursuant to Article 1(4) of Council Directive 91/689/EEC on hazardous waste (notified under document number C(2000) 1147), OJ L 226, 6.9.2000, pp. 3–24.

⁴ Directive (EU) 2025/2360 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 November 2025 on soil monitoring and resilience (Soil Monitoring Law), OJ L, 2025/2360, 26.11.2025.