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## **NEGATIVE DECLARATION HAZARDOUS WASTE (HAZARDOUS / TOXIC WASTE)**

The term "hazardous waste" refers to various types of waste with defined hazardous characteristics. They pose a risk to health and/or the environment. Depending on the type of waste, completely different disposal methods and procedures can be applied, or special regulations or legal provisions must be observed. All these factors together ensure the safe and environmentally friendly disposal of hazardous waste.

The classification of waste according to its hazardous nature is a central element of waste management. Among other things, it has an impact on the verification, treatment and disposal of waste. Directive 2008/98/EC (Waste Framework Directive) and the European Waste Catalogue (EWC) are decisive for the designation and classification of waste in the European Union, as well as their implementation in Germany in the Law on Closed Cycle Management and Waste and the Waste Catalogue Ordinance (AVV).

Waste classification refers to the assignment of waste to a waste type with a waste code number. The aim of waste classification is to achieve a uniform waste designation throughout Europe. It also determines the hazardousness, which results in registration and verification obligations for all parties involved in the disposal.

K+S is subject to waste legislation. Waste legislation in Germany comprises a series of laws and ordinances. A distinction is made between hazardous and non-hazardous waste. Hazardous waste is assumed to have one or more of the hazardous properties listed in Annex III of the Waste Framework Directive. Non-hazardous waste does not have these hazardous properties.

We record our hazardous and non-hazardous waste in the "Corporate Sustainability" environmental data management software. Mining waste generated during our production processes is not hazardous waste. Hazardous waste is normally generated as used or consumed operating and auxiliary materials in various production areas or during construction work and is recycled if possible or, if this is not possible, disposed of in accordance with legal regulations.

In our underground waste disposal sites (UTDs) at the Werra (Herfa site) and Zielitz plants and as part of the underground waste recovery sites (UTVs) at the Werra, Zielitz, and Bernburg plants, we operate officially approved disposal (recovery and disposal) of hazardous waste that is usually generated by other companies. In the underground disposal sites, hazardous waste is stored in closed sections of the potash mines, protected from the biosphere by layers of rock and salt several hundred meters thick, making them watertight and gas-tight. Our waste management officers also monitor the legal obligations regarding waste avoidance, separate collection, etc. in accordance with the Law on Closed Cycle Management and Waste, Commercial Waste Ordinance, etc. and implement possible improvements.

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