



**vito**

vision on technology

04/07/2011

## **Workshop Ecolizer**

### ***The methodology behind the Ecolizer 2.0***

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# Outline

- » **Introduction**
- » **Data sources**
- » **Method for calculating the eco-indicators**
- » **Points of attention**
  - » *End of Life*
  - » *Recycling*
- » **Questions**



Ostend



Antwerp



Mol

## VITO in a nutshell

VITO is a leading **independent** European research and consulting centre **developing sustainable technologies** in the area of **energy, environment, materials and remote sensing**.

In 2010, the total VITO budget was 90 million euro of which the contribution by contract research was 55 million euro. For 2011, VITO is counting on a budget of 95 million euro

VITO is based at three locations in Belgium

### Units overview

VITO counts > 600 highly qualified employees from diverse specialisations in 8 research units



## Unit Transition Energy & Environment

### Subjects of the unit

# Transition Energy & Environment

# Transition Energy & Environment

Energy Use &  
Supply

Sustainability  
Assessments

Sustainable  
Chemistry

Closed Lean  
Cycles

Living and  
Building

Land Use &  
Climate  
Change

Transport &  
Mobility

tion &

# Introduction

## » Ecolizer

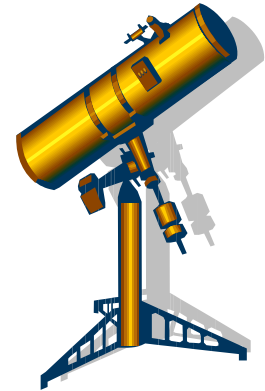
- » Sheets with **eco-indicators** (EI)
  - » Available on OVAM-website
  - » Sheets for 10 topics (plastics, energy, transport,...)
  - » Measure for environmental impact
  - » Expressed in mPt/unit (kg, m, m<sup>2</sup>, tonkm, etc)
  - » Higher EI  $\Rightarrow$  higher environmental impact



# Introduction

## » Ecolizer 1.0 versus 2.0

- » Update **method** for calculation of eco-indicators
  - » ReCiPe method instead of Eco-Indicator 99 method
- » Update **LCI-databases**
  - » More data available
    - » Materials
    - » Processes



# Data sources

- » **LCI-database** for background data
  - » **Ecoinvent 2.0** database (update)
    - » Extended with a.o. biomaterials
    - » Ecoinvent 1.0 used for Ecolizer 1.0
  - » Data-record contain direct and indirect inputs and outputs
  - » Additional data from Pré Consultants



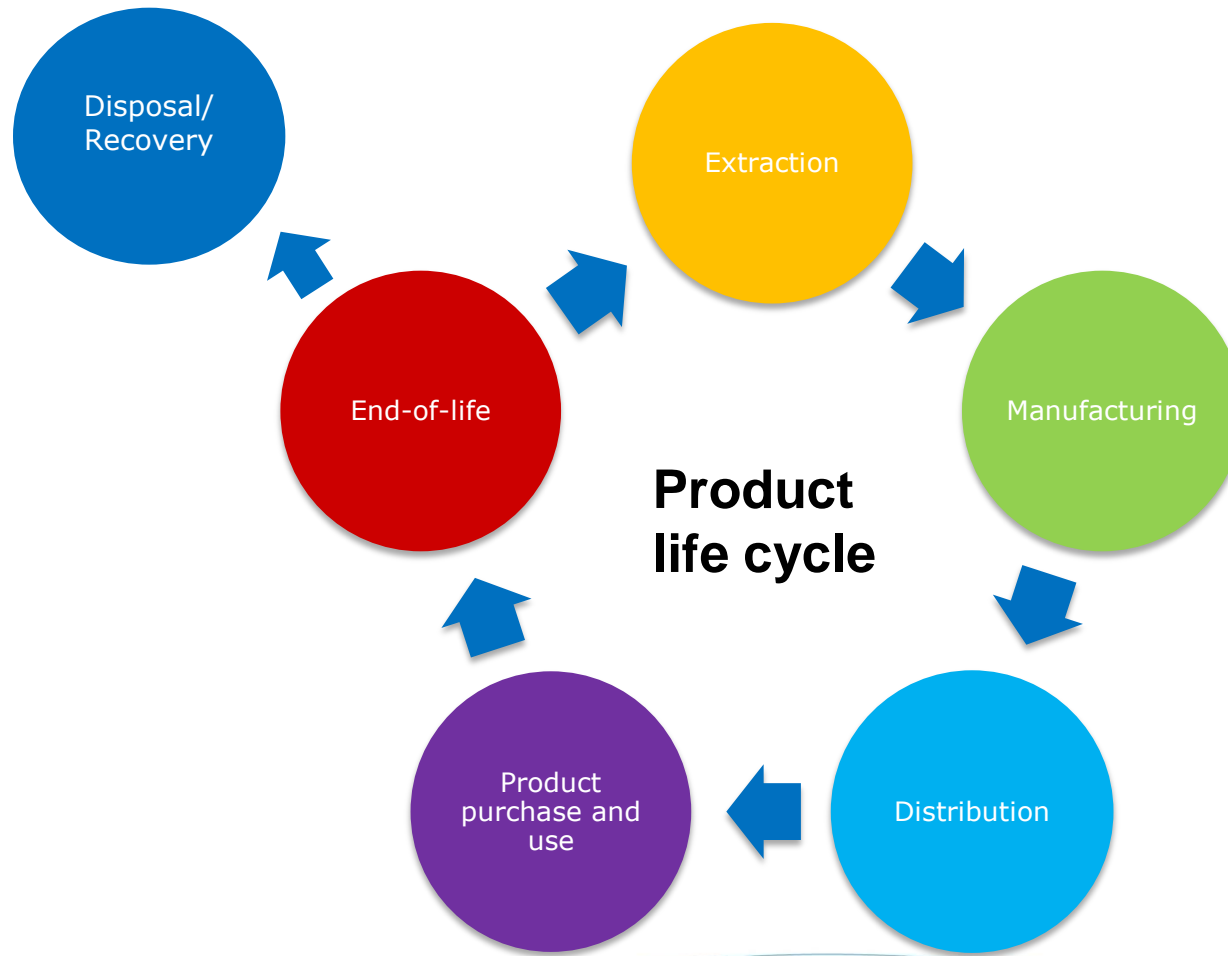


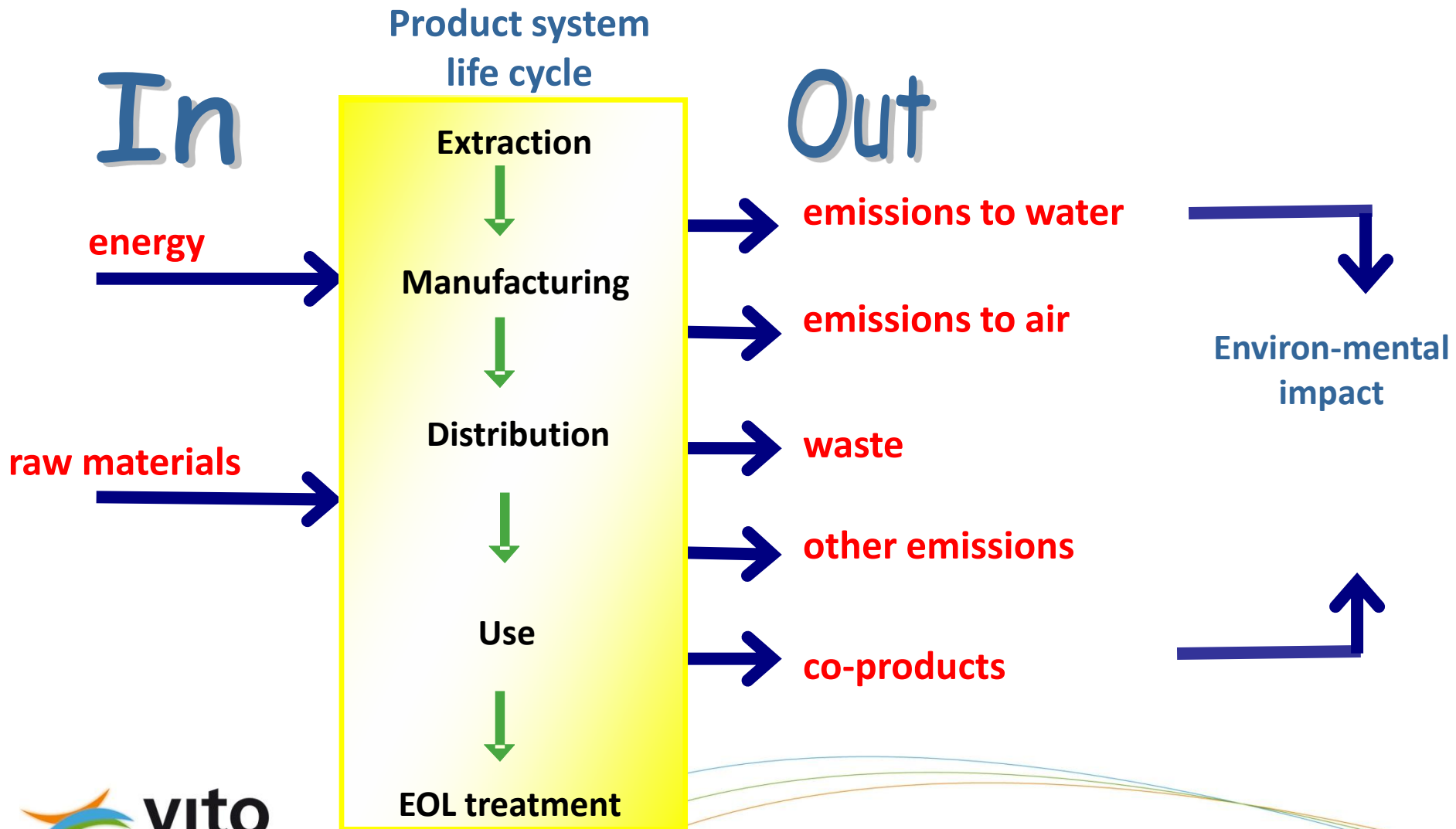
# Introduction

## » Ecolizer

- » Basis = LCA
  - » **Integral** environmental impact
  - » Impact categories combined in one single score
  - » **Life cycle perspective:** both direct and indirect impacts
  - » LCI data

# Introduction





# Method for calculation of eco-indicators

## » **Ecolizer 1.0**

- » Eco-Indicator 99 method
  - » Developed in 1999
  - » No future updates

## » Alternative method for update **Ecolizer 2.0:**

### » **ReCiPe**

- » Scientific basis
- » Successor of EI-99 method
- » Recently developed

# Method for calculation of eco-indicators

## » ReCiPe

- » Developed by Pré Consultants and CML (2009)
- » Combination of EI-99 and CML 2001 method
- » **3 steps:**
  - » Environmental impact categories (midpoint)
    - » E.g. Climate change, acidification
  - » Environmental damage categories (endpoint)
    - » E.g. Damage to human health
  - » One environmental indicator: eco-indicator

# Method for calculation of eco-indicators

## » ReCiPe – environmental impact categories (midpoint)

- » Climate change
- » Ozone layer depletion
- » Acidification
- » Eutrophication (freshwater)
- » Human toxicity
- » Photochemical oxidant formation
- » Particulate matter formation
- » Ecotoxicity (terrestrial, freshwater, marine)
- » Ionizing radiation
- » Land use (agricultural, urban)
- » Depletion of resources (metals, fossil)

# Method for calculation of eco-indicators

## » ReCiPe – environmental damage categories (endpoint)

- » Damage to human health
- » Damage to ecosystems
- » Depletion of resources

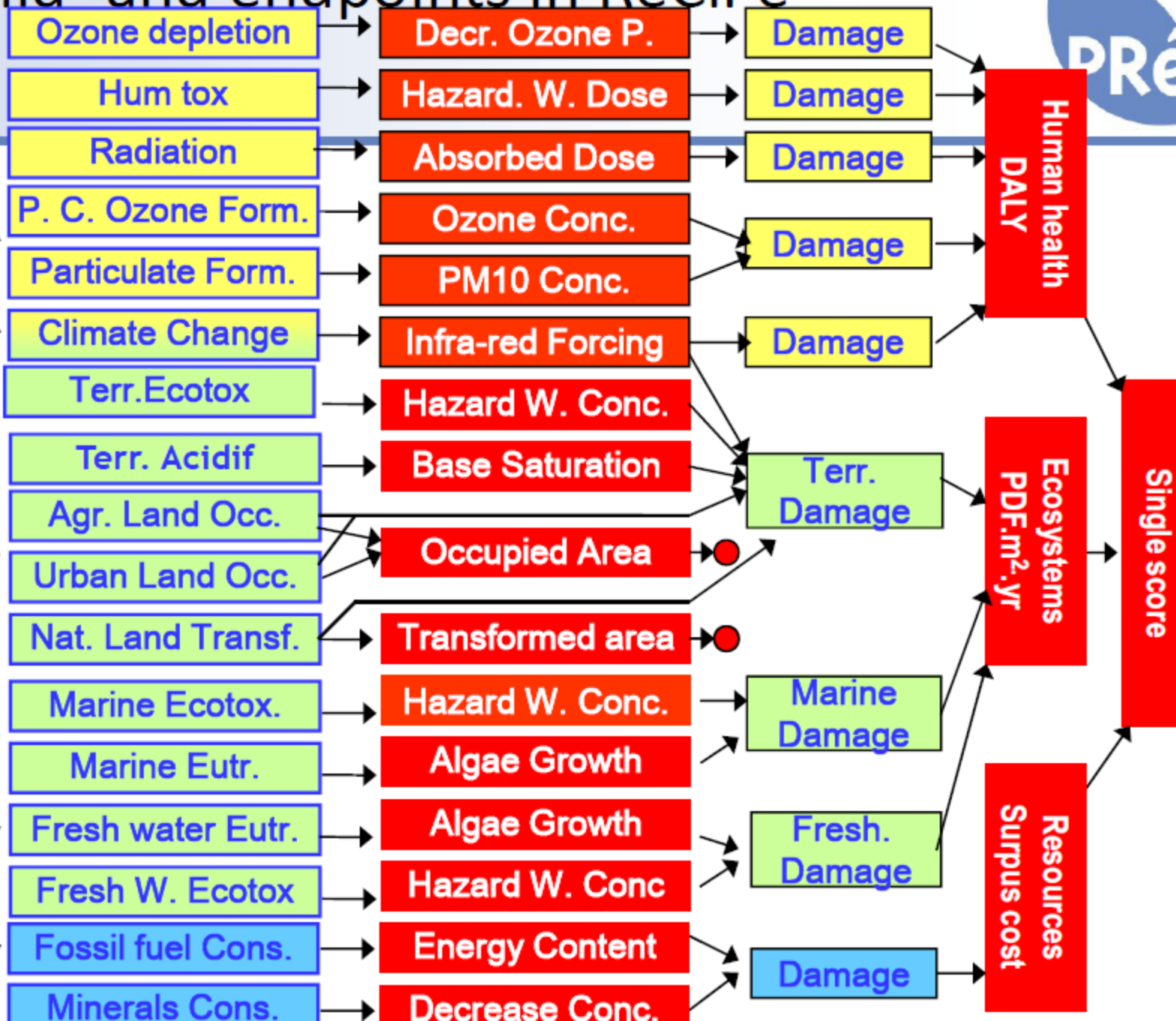
Enviromental damage category	Weighting factor (Hierarcist/Average)
Human health	400
Ecosystems	400
Resources	200



# Mid- and endpoints in ReCiPe

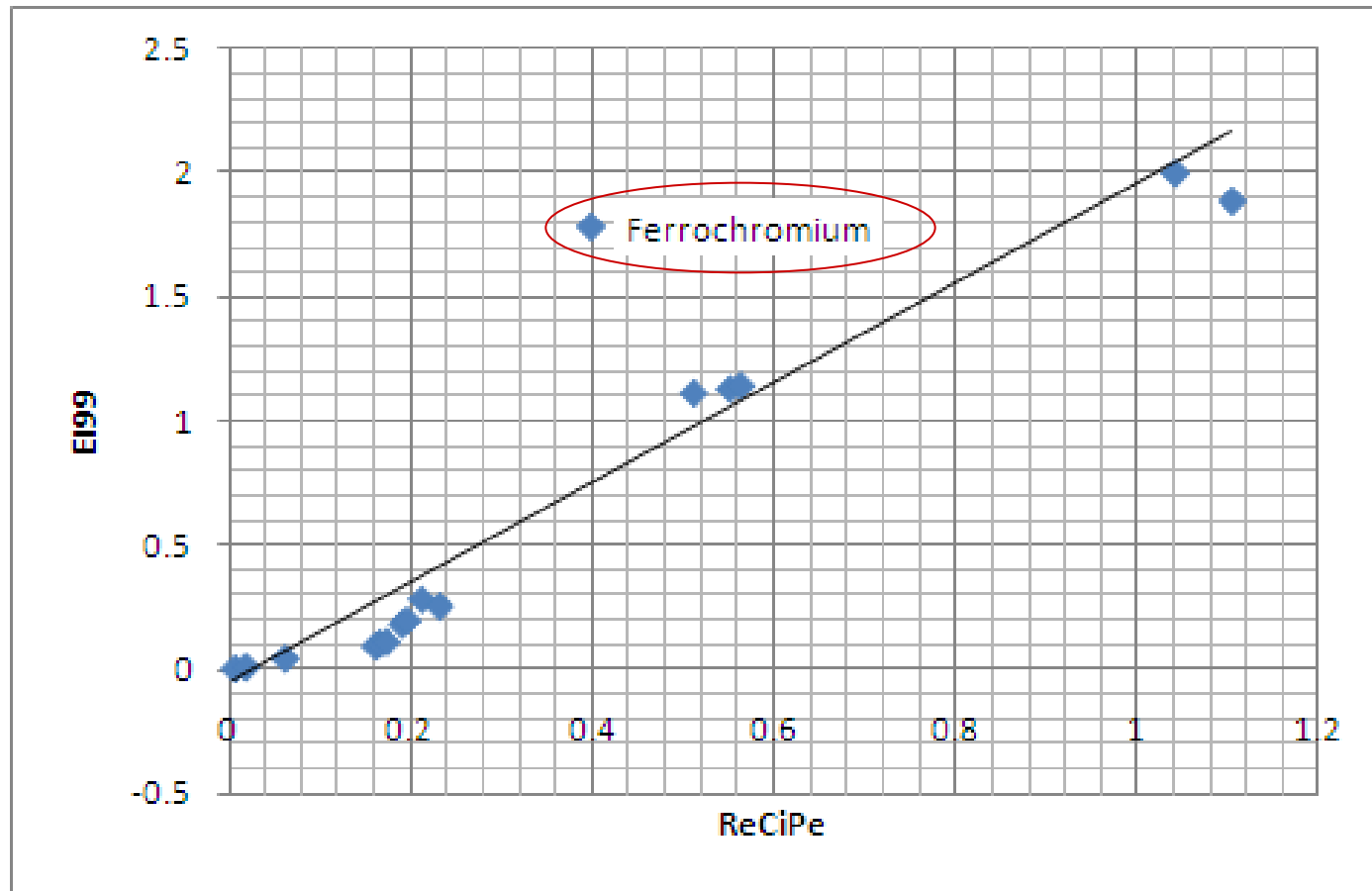
CI result

Raw mat.  
Land use  
CO2  
VOS  
P  
SO2  
NOx  
CFC  
Cd  
PAH  
DDT



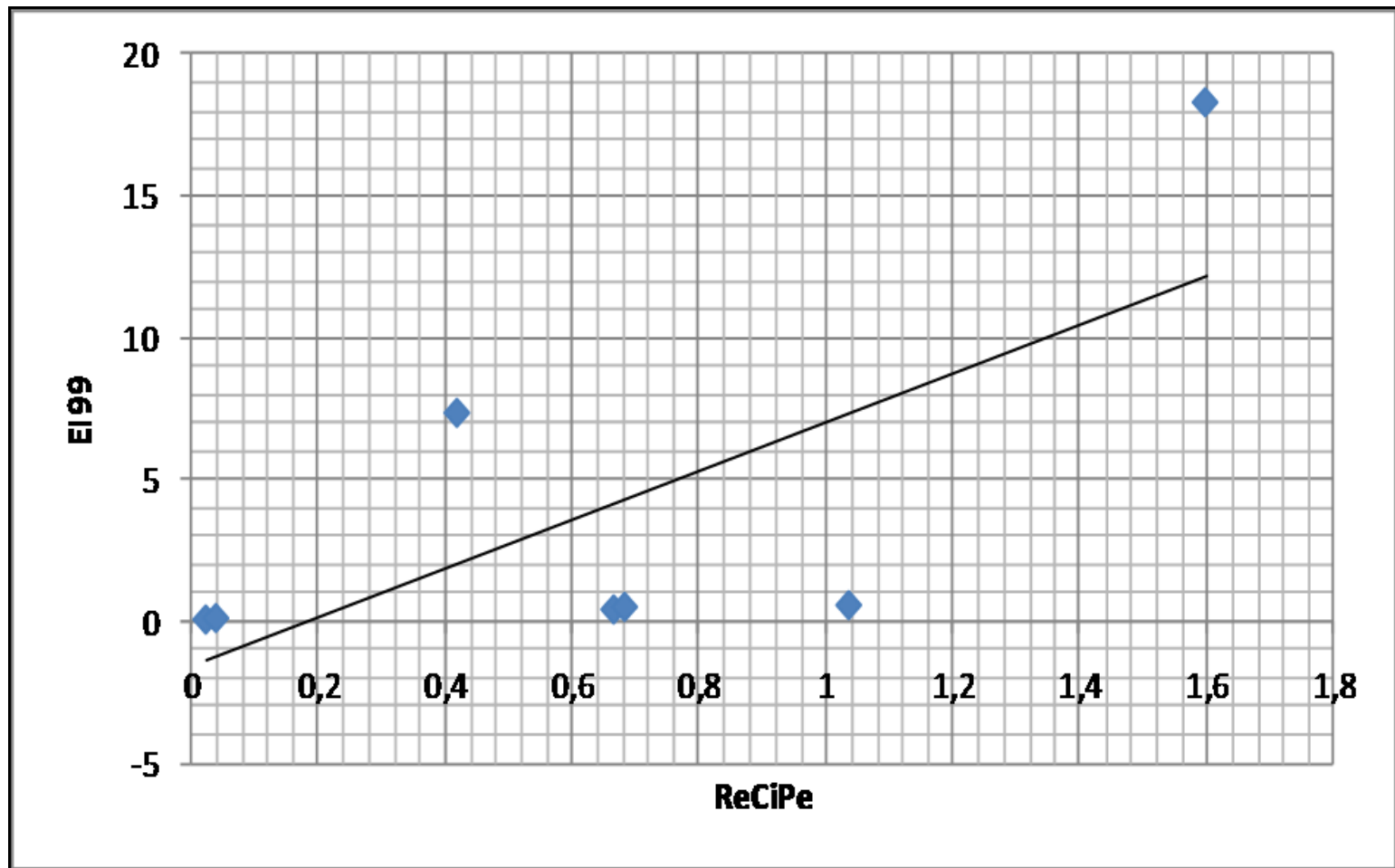
# Comparison EI-99 and ReCiPe

**Metals (Source: Pré Consultants, LCM2009 conference)**



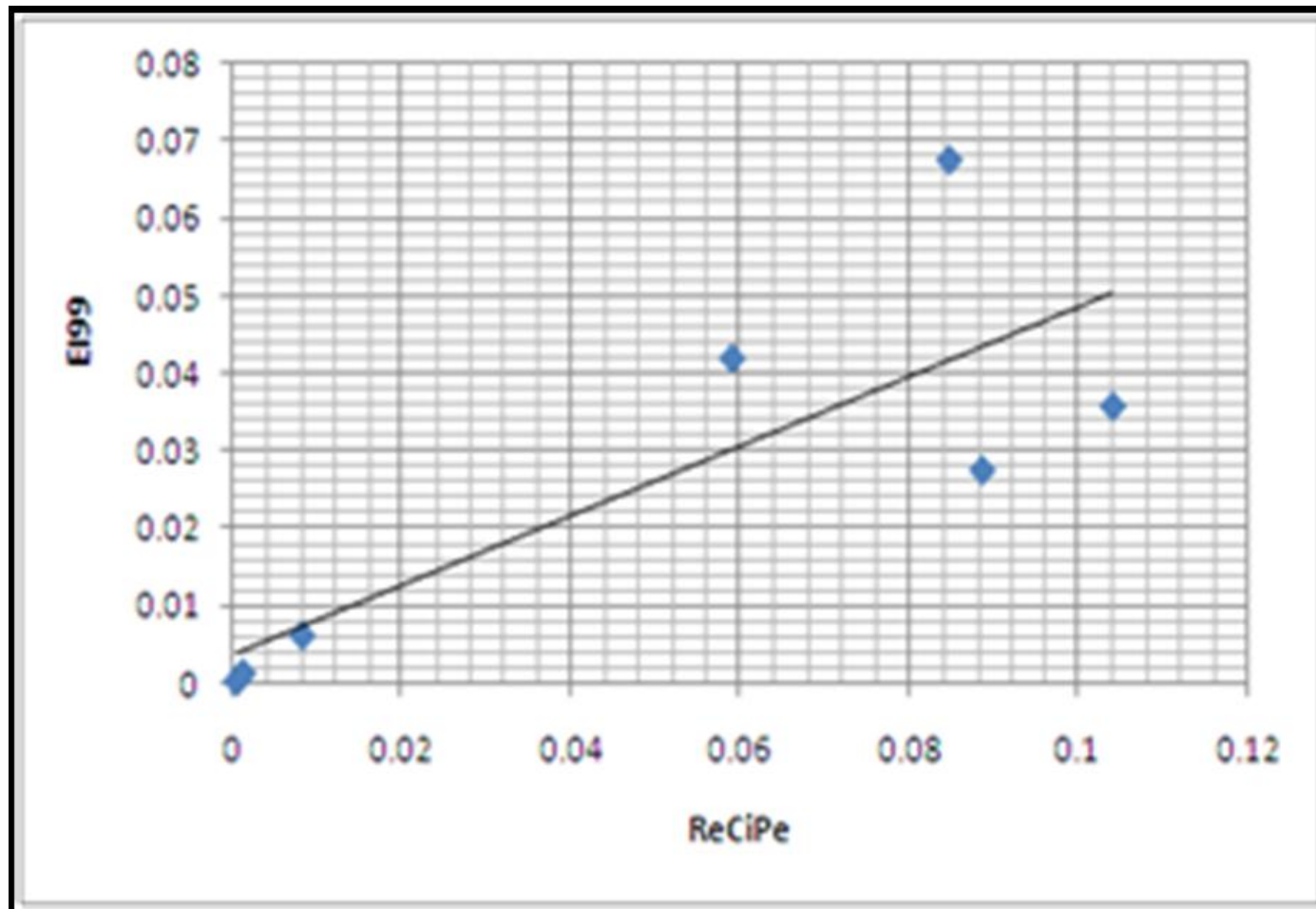
# Comparison EI-99 and ReCiPe

**Transport (Source: Pré Consultants, LCM2009 conference)**



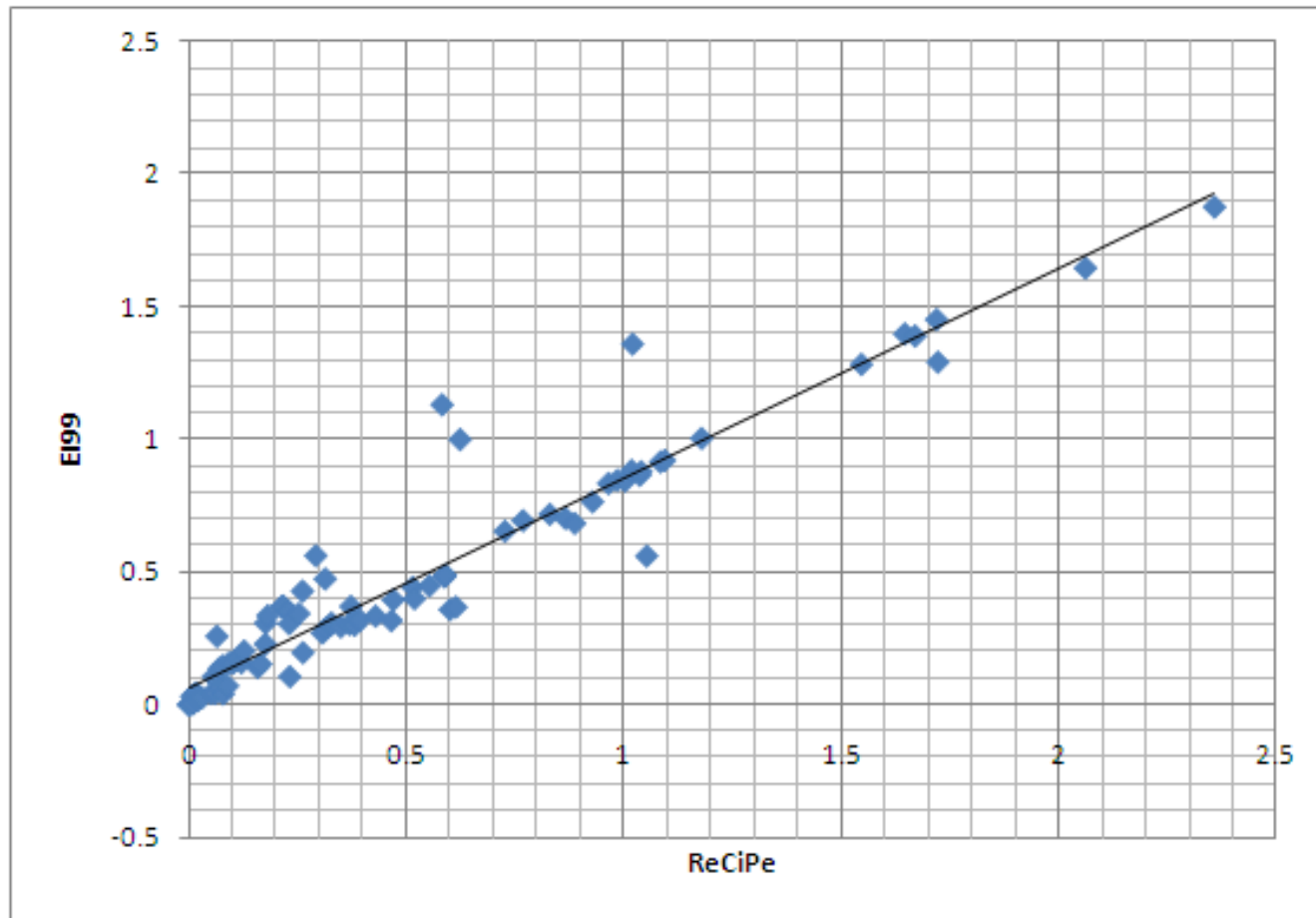
# Comparison EI-99 and ReCiPe

**Energy (Source: Pré Consultants, LCM2009 conference)**



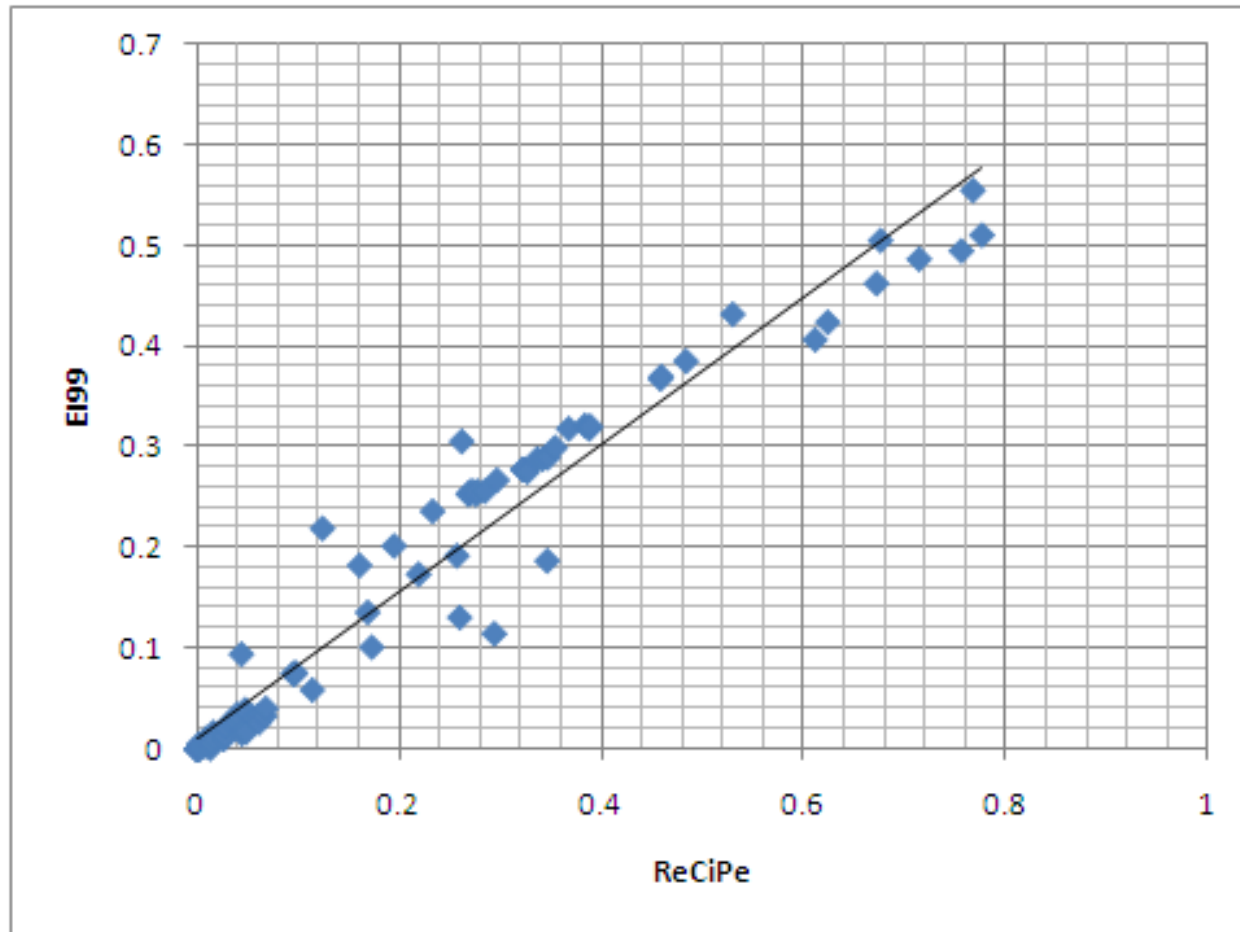
# Comparison EI-99 and ReCiPe

**Processes (Source: Pré Consultants, LCM2009 conference)**



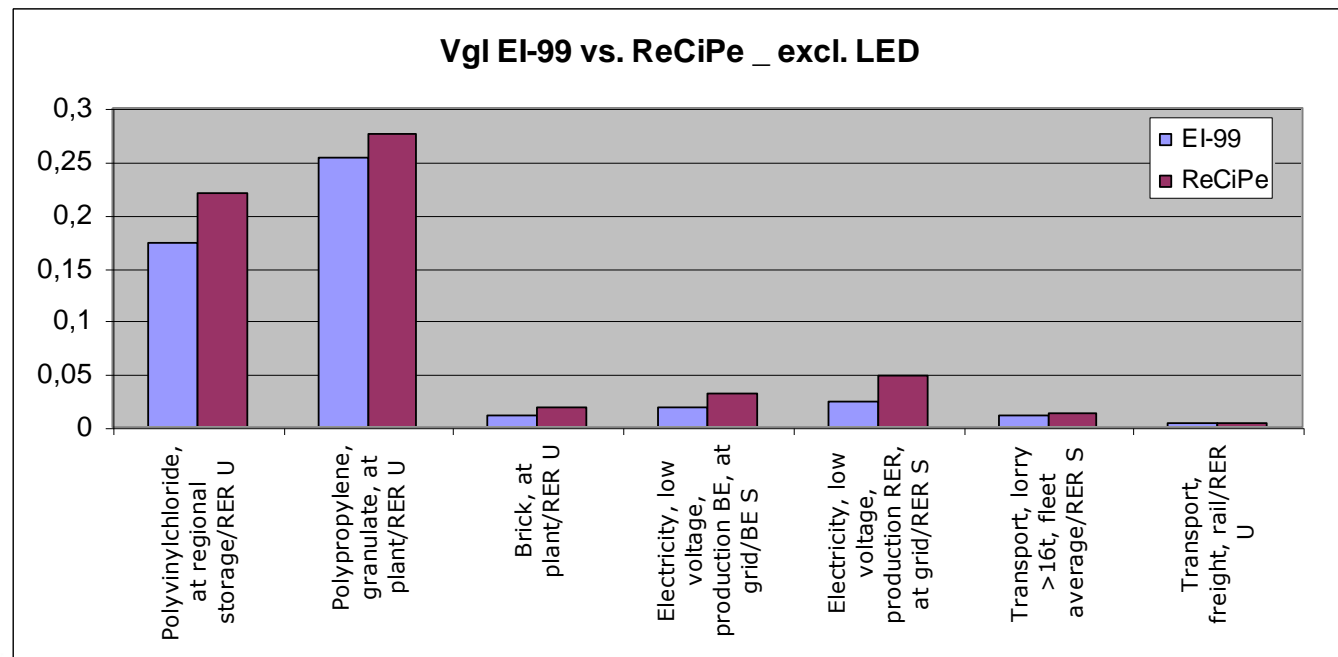
# Comparison EI-99 and ReCiPe

**Biofuels (Source: Pré Consultants, LCM2009 conference)**



# Comparison EI-99 and ReCiPe

- » **Difference** between eco-indicator score according to EI-99 and ReCiPe method
  - » Relative difference is **not always consistent**
  - » **Order of ranking and ratio remain** more or less the same when comparing different materials/processes





# Points of attention

## » **Data quality:**

### » **Black:**

- » Based on reliable data

### » **Grey:**

- » Based on limited dataset

- » Less reliable

### » **! Exclamation mark:**

- » Uncertain, based on estimations

- » generic data, not specific for the material

# Points of attention

## *End of Life*

» Per material sheet:

» **Recycling**

- » Impact of recycling process
- » Credits of avoided material production
- » Total

» **Waste scenario EU**

- » 80% disposal – 20% incineration

# Points of attention

## *EoL - incineration*

- » Only combustible flows go to incineration: no indicator for incineration of ferro, non ferro and inert materials
- » Own calculations
- » **Emissions** and **avoided emissions** to air, **auxiliary materials** taken into account
- » Type of energy recovery: **electricity**

# Points of attention

## Recycling

### » 2 approaches:

#### » “end of life recycling approach”

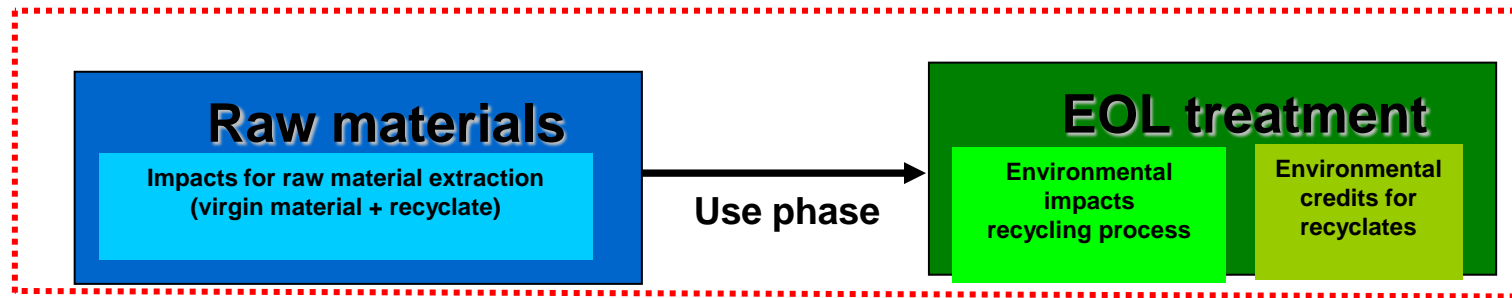
- » Take into account the recycling scenario at end of life
  - » *Use indicator for recycling process*
- » NO input of recycled material

#### » “recycled content approach”

- » Take into account the effective input of recycled material
  - » *Use indicator for production of recycled material*
- » NO recycling at end of life

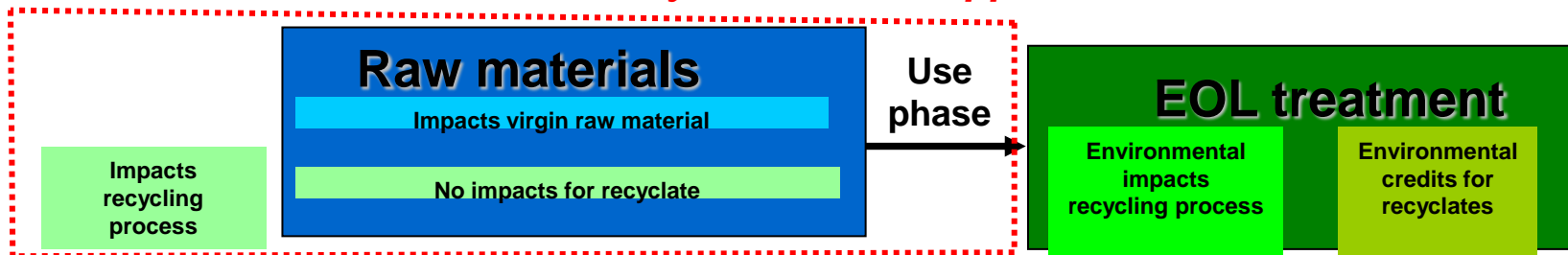
# Points of attention

## Recycling



*EOL recycling approach (avoided burdens)*

*Recycled content approach*



# Questions?

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