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Eibhilin Manning
EUBIA, Brussels, Belgium







Overview of the European Commission's Draft Directive on the Promotion of Energy from Renewable Sources





Policy in Brussels

- EUBIA as a Founding Association
- EREC, European Renewable Energy Council
- Located in REH
- Lobbying

- European Commission : Position Papers
- European Parliament: Meeting with MEPs
- Council: Liasing with Perm Reps



Outline

- Summary of the Commission's RES proposal
- Biofuel Sustainability Requirements
- Review of Discussions in European Parliament and in Council
- Outlook



Climate and Energy Package

- 23 January 2008 Commission proposed an integrated climate and energy package
- Follow up to the March 2007 European Council where endorsed targets proposed by Commission in 1st package of 2007
- Endorsed by Parliament
 - (Thomsen Report on Roadmap to Renewable Energy of September 2007)



23/01/08 Proposals

- Reform of EU emissions trading scheme (ETS)
- National targets for greenhouse gas emissions in non-ETS sectors
- Directive on Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)
- Renewable Energy Directive
- Reform of environmental state aid guidelines



Details of Directive

- Mandatory National Targets for RES Shares:
 - 10% renewable energy share in transport fuel by 2020 (Art.3 and 5)
- Requires national action plans (Art. 4)
- Reforms of administrative and regulatory barriers to the growth of RES (Art. 12)
- Improvements in provision of information and training regarding renewable energy (Art. 13)



Details of Directive

- Improves RE access to the electricity grid (Art. 14)
- Creates a sustainability regime for biofuels (Art. 15-18)
 - Minimum GHG savings of <u>35%</u>
 - No raw material from undisturbed forests, biodiverse grassland, nature protection areas (unless taken harmlessly)
 - No conversion of wetlands and continuously forested areas for biofuel production (to protect carbon stocks)
 - All EU biofuels must meet "cross compliance" environmental rules



Position of EREC on RES

Electricity:

- Existing RES-E Directive as the minimum starting point
- Provisions on grid issues strengthened and administrative barriers must be removed
- GoO alternative system must be proposed to prevent legal uncertainity

Heating and Cooling:

- Renewable Heat obligation for new buildings,
- Specific measures to promote RES cooling
- Removal of administrative barriers
- Reliable statistics for RES-heating



Position of EREC on Biofuels for Transport

- Upcoming Paper- Sustainability criteria for biofuels are linked to the objective of 10% renewable energy sources in transport fuel mix
- This binding 10% objective is a cornerstone for the promotion of biofuels
- The EU should also address certification of fossil fuels, giving the same level playing field with biofuels.



STATE OF PLAY

- Sustainability criteria will also apply to Fuel Quality Directive –MEP Dorette Corbey
- Ad hoc working group of the Council is working on the criteria —work ongoing
- In the Parliament, discussions on draft directive are ongoing, led by ITRE Committee supported by ENVI under Enhanced cooperation
- Timetable adopted in Plenary September, discussions with Council begin



Claude Turmes Draftsman ITRE -EP

- National responsibility for integrated biomass and renewables policy to deliver national renewables targets
- Member states define shares for different uses.
- Maintains buildings obligation
- No EU biofuels target most controversial issue
- Criteria apply to all bioenergy, not only biofuels as of entry into force of the Directive
- Biomass-for-energy hierarchy dividing biomass uses between "go" and "non go" categories.



Anders Wijkman –Rapporteur ENVI

- EU sustainability criteria should apply to all biomass
- 8% Target not 10%
- Create GHG of at least 50 % for biofuels
- Incorporating land use changes effectively
- GHG saving must be calculated regionally according to local circumstances



Council

- Ad hoc working group on sustainability criteria for biofuels coming to a close
- Outstanding issues
 - Two step approach on GHG emissison savings
 - Environmental and social criteria
 - Methodologies and default values
- Meeting on 6 June on RES



Lobbying at EU Level

- Lobbying MEPs: Still time to influence this directive-amendments for ENVI report 9 June, ITRE13 June
- Food –Fuel- Feed Debate –Input
- Buildings Directive- Upcoming
- Need for better representation in Brussels
 - Better mobilisation of the industry
 - Better coordination



Contact:

Eibhilin Manning

EUBIA

eibhilin.manning@eubia.org

