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EUBIA News & Events

Over 1,300 delegates from 77 countries attended the 17th edition of the European Biomass Conference and Exhibition, which took place from the 29th June -3rd July in Hamburg, Germany. Chairman Giovanni de Santi stated the event had been an excellent platform to discuss the latest bioenergy policies and scientific developments. The successful 3rd Biomass Industry Day, organized by EUBIA focused on the financing of large scale biomass projects and looked at innovative bioenergy technologies. Schmack Biogas AG were honoured with the EUBIA award for outstanding contribution to the Biomass sector, for their activity as a pioneer in biogas development in Europe and their commitment to modern and industrial scale production of biogas. To catch up on the highlights of the conference, download the Daily Bulletins available on the conference website at www.conference-biomass.com. In addition, the 3rd Biomass Industry Day Proceedings, which took place on 1st July 2009, are now available to download on the EUBIA website click here to view the presentations http://www.eubia.org/390.0.html.

EUBIA is organizing the final seminar of the Pellets@las project at the Renewable Energy House on the 18th November 2009, save the date! This international workshop will focus on the development and promotion of a transparent European pellets market. For further information view the project website www.pelletsatlas.info.

EUBIA is a partner in the COMPETE project and the final Conference 'Bioenergy for Sustainable Development in Africa - Lessons Learnt from COMPETE' will take place from the 24-25 November 2009, in Brussels. Prior to this the COMPETE Financing Conference 'Sustainable Bioenergy Projects in Africa ? Barriers and Opportunities for Financing?' will take place from the 29 September to 1 October 2009 in Dakar, Senegal.



News

Developments in Indirect Land Change Use Policy at EU Level

As part of the Renewable Energy Directive, the European Commission are required by December 2010 to submit a report to the European Parliament and to the Council reviewing the impact of indirect land use change of biofuels production on greenhouse gas emissions with ways to of addressing that impact. The Commission having pledged to finalize its proposals on indirect land use change impacts by March 2010 circulated a draft consultation paper to stakeholders over the summer months. The early publication of the report in March 2010 is to ensure that Member States can take this into account when submitting their national renewable energy action plans by the end of June 2010.

The European Commission organized a consultation meeting on July 16th to discuss the policy elements outlined in its draft pre-consultation document with NGO and industry stakeholders. Meetings with Member States and Third Countries also took place with the Commission. The results of the Commission's pre-consultation exercise were published in August 2009. Stakeholders were asked to respond to the policy options A-G (outlined below) presented in the consultation document. Policy options A& B focus on extending the policy options outside biofuels to general land use change issues. Policy option A would extend the restrictions on land use change to other commodities and countries than those imposed on biofuels consumed in the EU. Policy Option B would address international agreements on protecting carbon-rich habitats which would include a labeling approach.

Policy Option C assumes the current legislation of the EU will do enough to cover iLuc emissions. Policy Option D with the information from the modeling exercise [currently ongoing in the Commission] would translate to increases in the GHG performance levels of biofuels in the current legislation. Policy E looks at extending bonuses to individual consignments of biofuels from

severely degraded or heavily contaminated land, whilst Policy element F looks at consignments from crops or locations of biofuels production that leads to increase in demand for agricultural commodities. Policy Option G presumes an iLuc factor would be derived from the modeling work conducted by the Commission and included then in calculating the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions from biofuels.

In Autumn 2009, the Commission will publish results of a methodology study currently ongoing on indirect land use change (herewith referred to as iLuc) in the Commission. They are undertaking a Partial Equilibrium Modelling Exercise to establish a baseline with the 2020 targets using inhouse tools, the JRC in Seville are assisting here in looking at hectare production of crops in different countries and the JRC Ispra are looking at translating this from hectares to carbon stocks. General Equilibrium Modelling involving SIIPA & IFPRI Consortium, commissioned a G Tap model to adapt to EU conditions (studying the co-products relationships as well) which is more complicated than the JRC's carbon stocks model. Additionally, the JRC in ISPRA have a modelling consortium trying to link the two exercises to be as cohesive as possible. For more information consult eibhilin.manning@eubia.org. To view the pre-consultation results click on the Commission's [consultation webpage](#).

NREAPs Template Published by European Commission

Fabrizio Barbaso, DG TREN, spoke at the opening session of the 17th European Biomass Conference and Exhibition on the importance of national renewable action plans in the RES Directive. On 30th June 2009, the European Commission has published a template for national renewable energy action plans that member states must complete and submit by 30 June 2010. This template will help Member States to work out their renewable energy strategies. The template explicitly states that MS are to set national sectoral targets in electricity, heating and cooling and transport. For bioenergy, Member States are to outline the contribution of bioenergy to meet targets and trajectory in the three sectors. For example, for



transport, this implies providing information on the planned technology breakdown, and the shares of 1st and 2nd generation biofuels. The Member States are to outline bioenergy targets at national, regional, local level in their action plans and the specific measures on the promotion of the use of energy from biomass, especially for new biomass mobilization. For biomass availability it has to be indicated whether the Member States plan to rely on domestic resources or on imports. If a Member State fail to introduce adequate measures to enable it to meet its trajectory, the Commission can require the Member State to submit an amended NREAP or initiate infringement proceedings. For further information visit:

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/doc/nreap__adoptedversion__30_june_en.pdf

SET Plan Financing Low Carbon Technologies

The Commission is set to publish the long awaited financing low carbon technologies at the end of September/early October. The communication was postponed since 2008 and would outline how the Commission intends to finance the Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET Plan), which it published in November 2007. DG TREN, DG RTD and DG ECFIN were all involved in the preparation of the communication which entered into interservice consultation in the Commission in the summer. All Director-Generals in the Commission were requested to submit their responses to the draft communication document by August 28th. The main message of the Communication will be that Europe needs to double the amount it spends on energy R&D. The package will contain the Communication, a Staff Working Document and an Impact Assessment.

In line with the publication of the communication, the Swedish EU Presidency will organise a SET Plan conference in Stockholm on the 21st-22nd October 2009. The meeting, bringing together policymakers, industry, researchers and the financial community, will discuss how to move forward with the plan's objectives. It will prepare for a summit on the SET plan 2010, focus on the SET-Plan financing options and the six important technologies and industrial initiatives in the SET-Plan: wind power, solar energy, bio energy, CCS, nuclear

power and smart grids. The Industrial Initiatives will be officially launched at this conference. The aim of the Industrial Initiatives is to strengthen energy research and innovation by bringing together appropriate resources and actors in a particular industrial sector. The relevance of the upcoming Communication with Industrial Initiatives is that it sets out technology roadmaps from 2010-2020 for investment in all renewable energies. In particular for bioenergy of relevance is the roadmap in the Communication on the European Bioenergy Industrial Initiative. The estimation in the roadmap is 8.5bn is needed between now and 2020 to realize this Initiative.

Forming the European Bioenergy Industrial Initiative

Important progress was achieved at a June workshop in Brussels on the European Bioenergy Industrial Initiative. The workshop's primary objectives were to develop a common understanding of the essential elements of the European Industrial Bioenergy initiative, as put forward by the European Biofuels Technology Platform (EBTP) in their contribution. The scope of the EIBI, according to the EBTP contribution, would be all bioenergy, prioritizing biofuels and the deployment of large-scale biofuels projects. The projects must also be innovative, meaning not yet commercially available. Seven innovative biofuel "value chains" were identified by the EBTP that should be supported by the EIBI. The seven value chains identified do not mean that others could not be included within the next years that encompass all bioenergy. For the total budget of the EIBI each value chain would be in order of 1 billion EUR with 800million to 1billion EUR reserved for yet unidentified value chains. The main criticism of the EIBI at this nascent stage is that there is only one value chain highlighting "heat and power" and thereby the EIBI is neglecting 85% of possible energy usage of biomass through its focus on biofuels. There are six value chains focused on 2nd generation biofuels. A follow up workshop will take place in Brussels on the 21st September 2009* dedicated to discussing projects' eligibility and selection criteria. In addition, a high Level meeting on Efficient Bioenergy from the 17-18 September, organized under the Swedish Presidency,



will prepare for the September workshop in Brussels and the October SET Plan meeting.

*EUBIA is looking for an expert specialized in the selection of projects and eligibility criteria to attend this meeting. Please email eibhilin.manning@eubia.org if you are interested.

Enhanced role for the European Investment Bank

With the European Investment Bank set to take on a pivotal role in project lending for low carbon technologies under the Financing Low Carbon Technologies Communication, the actions of the EIB will come under closer scrutiny. The Commission and the EIB have worked together in a number of areas benefitting energy technologies, for example in the Risk Sharing Finance Facility (RSFF) which combines resources from the FP7 budget with those of the EIB to finance higher-risk R&D projects, including the energy sector. The RSFF will be reinforced in the upcoming communication. Additionally, the Commission and the European Investment Bank will outline a new instrument to finance renewable energy and energy efficiency projects enabling a faster roll-out of projects.

Renewable Heating and Cooling Platform

The Cross-cutting Panel of the European Technology Platform on Renewable Heating and Cooling kick-off meeting is going to take place on 4th September 2009 in Brussels. The European Technology Platform on Renewable Heating & Cooling (RHC-ETP) brings together stakeholders from the biomass, geothermal, solar thermal and related fields, to define a common strategy for increasing the use of renewable energy technologies in the heating and cooling sector. The Cross-Cutting Panel aims at discussing and presenting research priorities, which are common to the three sectoral panels (solar thermal, biomass, and geothermal). EUBIA will participate in the meeting. The following Focus Groups are proposed: District Heating and Cooling from renewable energy sources, Thermal energy storage Renewable energy technologies' integration in buildings, Renewable heating and cooling in industrial processes, & Renewable energy hybrid systems. One President and two Vice-Presidents will represent the Cross-cutting Panel on the Board of the Platform. On

11th September, the Board meeting of the Platform is going to take place (premises: Renewable Energy House in Brussels). For more information contact: eibhilin.manning@eubia.org.

New Entrants Reserve of the EU's Emissions Trading Scheme

A stakeholder meeting took place in Brussels on June 29th on the implementation of Article 10.a.8 of the Emissions Trading Directive (the New Entrants Reserve 300 allocations). On the 4th June, the European Commission sent a Non-Paper on "Modalities for co-financing of CCS and innovative RES projects" in the framework of the Emissions Trading Scheme Phase III allocation from the new entrants reserve (NER300) to the Climate Change Committee (CCC). The Stakeholder meeting took place to allow the CCS Industry and renewables industry present their views to the Commissions on the modalities of financing under the New Entrants Reserve 300 allocations. At the meeting, the European Renewable Energy Council presented "Innovative Renewable Energy Areas" for the different sectors and outlined EREC's view of the non-paper of the Commission as stated in EREC's position paper of 19th June 2009.

The Commission highlighted that co-financing under the NER300 can be combined with other funding mechanisms, and there will be a split of the allowances into two different calls. The Commission are against an upfront split of the allowances for RES and CCS. For the Renewable Energy Technologies they must be innovative and no upstream technologies can be financed under the NER 300. Finally, the Commission are rewording the bioenergy annex that was presented in the non-paper of June 4th 2009.

FP7 Energy Research Call 2010

The European Commission has published on 30 July 2009 a number of calls for proposals under the specific programmes "Cooperation" and "Capacities" of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The Info Day on the 2010 Energy Calls will take place in Brussels on the 14th September 2009. All relevant calls (energy calls, energy topics of the ocean and PPP calls, FCH JU call)



will be presented and detailed information on the participation rules provided during this Information Day. Click here for more [Information and registration](#) details.

ExxonMobil's algae biofuel program

Exxon Mobil Corporation announced an alliance with a biotech company, Synthetic Genomics Inc. (SGI), to research and develop next generation biofuels from photosynthetic algae. Under the program ExxonMobil expects to spend more than \$600 million in this program: \$300 million for in-house studies and another \$ 300 million for successfully meeting research and development milestones. The companies are projecting their partnership as a long-term R&D effort with possible investment running into billions. For further information see http://www.exxonmobil.com/Corporate/news_opeds_20090730_algae.aspx

Green Cars Initiative

The European Green Cars initiative is one of the three Public-Private Partnerships that was included in the Commission's recovery package. The envelope for this initiative is foreseen at €5 billion to boost to the automotive industry in a time of economic hardship, and support the development of new, sustainable forms of road transport. Of this financial envelope, € 4 billion will be made available through loans by the European Investment Bank (EIB), and € 1 billion through support to research, with equal contribution from the Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7) and from the private sector. More than 800 participants attended the Information day on the three research PPPs 'Factories of the Future', 'Energy-efficient Buildings' and 'Green Cars' that was held in Brussels on July 14th 2009. The recordings can be found at the following weblink: http://ec.europa.eu/research/industrial_technologies/lists/events-fp7-information-day_en.html.

Solid Fuel Small Combustion Installations

The Directive on "Eco-design requirements for Energy using Products" (EuP) establishes the framework for regulating the design and manufacture of "products

dependent on energy input" and products for the generation, transfer and measurement of such energy. The Directive aims to reduce the environmental impact of EuPs throughout their lifecycle and improve energy efficiency, while at the same time ensuring that EuPs can circulate freely within the EU market. It sets out general criteria for selecting products to be covered by "implementing measures", which should set out legal requirements such as design standards for specific product groups. Solid fuel small combustion installations (boilers etc) was indentified in this grouping and a preparatory study was launched by **DG TREN** on this product group. The dedicated site is www.ecosolidfuel.org for this preparatory study where all tasks and up-dated reports are available for download. The final stakeholder meeting took place on 13th of July in Brussels, however the work on the solid fuel combustion installations is far from complete with the outcome of the final stakeholder meeting calling into question the methodology and outcomes produced by the consortium. The next step after the study is completed is a working document highlighting possible Eco-design measures, to be prepared by the Commission, which should then be discussed at a Consultation Forum (with Member States and stakeholders). Afterwards, the Commission adjusts their draft implementing measures, which are submitted to the Regulatory Committee (national experts) for a vote. Following a 3-month EP / Council scrutiny period, the College of Commissioners adopts the act.

DG TREN Call for Tender

DG TREN have published a call for tender to carry out a Study on organisational models and best practice for facilitating local co-ownership and similar ways of increasing community acceptance of renewable energy projects A detailed description of the requested study and the modalities for submitting an offer can be found on the following web site: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/energy_transport/tenders/2009_en.htm

This issue is written by Eibhilin Manning and edited and published by the European Biomass Industry Association.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in the Newsletter are those of the authors.

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Publications

Biofuel Cities, [Guide to Sustainable Biofuels Procurement for Transport](#), July 2009

BP, [BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2009 edition](#), July 2009

Carbon Trust, [Focus for success A new approach to commercializing low carbon technologies](#), July 2009

Christian Aid, [Growing pains: the possibilities and problems of biofuels](#), August 2009

EurObserv'ER Report, [The State of Renewable Energies in Europe](#), 8th EurObserv'ER Report, July 2009

German Environment Ministry Brochure on Innovation for a sustainable future, [Erneuerbare Energien - Innovationen für eine nachhaltige Energiezukunft](#), June 2009

International Energy Agency, [Energy Technology Roadmaps: Status Report](#), July 2009

Joint Research Centre, [JRC Scientific and Technical Reports Renewable Energy Snapshots 2009](#), June 2009

REN 21, [Renewables: Global Status Report. 2009 Update. Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century](#), July 2009

Events Diary

-NILE Workshop, 15 September 2009, Stockholm, Sweden

-3rd BITES Workshop - European Biofuel Best Practices, 17 September 2009, Stockholm, Sweden

-RENEXPO 2009, 24-27 September 2009, Trade Fair Centre, Augsburg, Germany

-Sustainable Bioenergy Projects in Africa, Barriers and Opportunities for Financing?, 29 September to 1 October 2009, Dakar, Senegal

HSBC Global Research, [A Global Green Recovery? Yes, but in 2010](#), August 2009

IEA Bioenergy, [Bioenergy – A sustainable and reliable energy source - A review of status and prospects – Executive summary](#), Aug 2009

IEA Bioenergy, [IEA Bioenergy Strategic Plan 2010-2016](#), July 2009

IEEP, [Climate Change and Energy Security in Europe: Policy Integration and its Limits](#), July 2009

International Energy Agency, [Energy Statistics of OECD Countries - 2009 Edition](#) July 2009

International Energy Agency, [Energy Balances of OECD Countries - 2009 Edition](#) July 2009

The Climate Group, [Breaking the Climate Deadlock; Technology for a Low Carbon Future](#), July 2009

UK Department of Energy and Climate, [The UK Renewable Energy Strategy 2009](#), July 2009

UK Department of Energy and Climate, [Low carbon transition plan](#), July 2009

- Biomass Power, 30 September - 1 October 2009, The Grange City Hotel, London

-Understanding Biofuels Swaps, 22 October 2009, London, UK

-ExpoBioenergia 09, 21-23 October 2009, Valladolid, Spain

-Pellets@las Final Seminar, November 18 2009, REH

-Bioenergy for Sustainable Development in Africa - Lessons Learnt from COMPETE, 24-25 November 2009, Brussels, Belgium