Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment

Sustainability criteria for solid biomass

Outcomes of the Dutch Energy Agreement

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The Dutch energy mix

- 16,8 million inhabitants
- Installed electricity generating capacity: 25 GW
- Electricity production: 124 TWh
- Electricity use: 109 TWh
- Gas production 83,9 million m3
- Gas use: 51,9 million m3

- Net exporting country
- Part of the Northwestern European market

(all figures from 2011)

Renewable energy in the Netherlands

- 2020 target for the EU as a whole: 20% renewable energy
- Dutch 2020 target: 14%
- In 2012: 96,8 PJ RE (3,3%)
- Wind onshore: 15,5 %
- Wind offshore : 2,9 %
- Solar pv: 0,9 %
- Geothermal: 3,5 %
- Biomass: 73 %, of which:
  - Co-firing: 11,6 %-point
  - Waste incineration: 15,5%-point
  - Wood households: 13,1 %-point

Sustainability

- Renewability ≠ sustainability!
- Many challenges exist regarding the sustainability of especially bioenergy: net CO2-emissions, biodiversity, soil quality, etc.
- This is important because bioenergy is dependent on government support, mainly because of sustainability reasons
- No framework for solid biomass yet

Energy Agreement for Sustainable Growth

- Focuses on a sustainable energy supply for the Dutch economy
- Over 40 signatories: including national governement, energy companies and environmental NGOs
- Agreement on saving in energy consumption of 1,5% anually;
- Renewable energy share increase from 4,4% currently to 14% in 2020, and 16% in 2023 (340 PJ)

Energieakkoord

Solid biomass in the Energy Agreement

- By 2020, a maximum of 25 PJ of bioenergy from coal power plants (2012: 11,2 PJ)
- This biomass is to be supported with SDE+ subsidy
- The biomass needs to comply with several sustainability criteria

Sustainability criteria for biomass

The national government, energy sector and NGOs agreed on:

- Sustainability is primarily based on the NTA8080 sustainability scheme
- It must also come from sustainably managed forest (FSC)
- Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC) needs to be addressed
- Carbon debt needs to be addressed (positive/negative list)

Implementation

- We try to use as much as possible from existing systems
- Sustainability criteria to be agreed on by summer 2014
- Assessment framework to be in place by end of 2014, and functioning by 2015

Thank you for your attention!

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