

EU policies concerning bioenergy Recent developments and outlook

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- Biomass sustainability
- 2030 EU climate and energy framework
- Energy Security
- Competition of uses and cascading
- EU requirements for bioenergy installations



Biomass sustainability criteria: EC report

- Staff working document published 28 July 2014 – Non legal document
- AEBIOM has welcomed the fact that this report, initially due in end 2011, was finally published and the efforts of the Commission to summarize the state of play on the sustainability situation
- Rather balanced: biomass benefits and risks
- **BUT:** the decision on possible EU legally binding criteria is postponed to the 2030 EU climate and energy debate – No certainty for investors



Biomass sustainability criteria: EC report

	BENEFITS	RISKS
Impact on forests	Bioenergy developments have had no negative impacts on EU forests	Increased extraction for bioenergy production up to 2030 could result in deterioration of forest resources and ecosystem
GHG savings	<p>Solid and gaseous biomass is key to achieving the 2020 renewable energy targets and the EU long-term decarbonisation goals by 2050</p> <p>A vast majority of the biomass pathways used today provides carbon reductions in the medium / short term and long term</p>	<p>Stem wood and stumps harvested only for bioenergy = neglected GHG savings</p> <p>Definition of stem wood?</p>
Competition of uses		Competition between energy and pulp, paper and board industry will increase – Evaluation and monitoring are needed

Biomass sustainability: the debate is ongoing



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT
Directorate F- Strategy
Unit F1 – Chief Economist, Impact assessment and evaluation



CALL FOR TENDERS
ENV.F.1/ETU/2013/0033

**Forest biomass for energy in the EU:
current trends, carbon balance and
sustainable potential**

for BirdLife Europe, EEB, and Transport & Environment

**Study on impacts on resource efficiency of future EU
demand for bioenergy**

POTENTIAL AND IMPLICATIONS OF USING BIOMASS FOR ENERGY IN THE EU

A call for tender by BirdLife Europe, the European Environmental Bureau and Transport & Environment

Deadline: 20 September 2015

ENV.B.1/ETU/2014/0043.

Study on the environmental implications of the increased reliance of the EU on biomass for energy imported from North America.

Biomass, mostly wood, makes up more than half of the renewable energy in the EU likely to remain dominant for the foreseeable future. North America has emerged in recent years as a key supplier of biomass to the EU. The aim of the study is to gain up-to-date information on biomass imported from the US, the policy environment for US biomass exports and possible implications on the EU's approach to biomass for energy.



2030 EU Climate and Energy framework

- January 2014: Commission's proposal towards 2030
 - 27% EU renewable energy binding target (BUT: no more national binding targets)
 - 40% GHG emissions reduction
 - 30% reduction of energy consumption

- The EU RES sector called for a more ambitious RES target with national legally binding targets. The 27% proposal does not reflect the potential of RES in Europe

- 23rd October 2014: European Council meeting. Member States decision:
 - 27% EU renewable energy binding target (BUT: no more national targets)
 - 40% GHG emissions reduction
 - 27% reduction of energy consumption – Indicative target



2030 EU Climate and Energy framework



PRESS RELEASE

EU 2030 energy and climate targets: The right regulatory framework will lead us way beyond 27% for renewables!

Brussels, 24th October 2014. The European Council has set a binding 40% GHG emissions reduction target, a minimum 27% for renewables - only binding at EU-level- and an indicative 27% for energy efficiency. These targets fall short of the needs of Europeans. More can be achieved with renewables for heating and cooling, and consistent actions on energy security, affordability and climate protection.

- Impacts on the bioenergy sector:
 - risks for investments in the biopower and biofuels sector
 - Economic and energy security crisis = bioheat developments to continue
- The EU RES sector is now going to focus its efforts on the implementation of the governance to have measures and indicators in place to ensure RES development



Energy security

- EU security of energy supply is threatened by dependency on fossil fuel imports from unstable regions
 - Geopolitical issue + GDP-leakage: imports of fossil fuels = €545 B or 4.2% EU GDP
- May 2014: EC “*European Security Energy Strategy*”
 - “*a fuel-switch to indigenous renewable heating sources can displace significant amounts of imported fuels*”
- October 2014: EC Stress test Communication
 - Assessment of the impact of a potential disruption of gas supplies in various EU countries and identify solutions to minimize the potential negative impacts
 - Urgent measures for coming winter: facilitate large-scale fuel switching (including to biomass) to take place in DH
 - Medium term measures: Networks built on natural gas can be switched to alternative sources (including biomass) ; Switching industrial CHP plants and medium-size CHP in the tertiary sector to renewable can be implemented in 1-2 years' time



Energy security



POSITION PAPER

RENEWABLES FOR HEATING AND COOLING AND EU SECURITY OF SUPPLY: *SAVE OVER 20 BILLION EURO ANNUALLY IN REDUCED FOSSIL FUEL IMPORTS*

21st May 2014

KEY MESSAGES

**RENEWABLE ENERGY IS THE RIGHT ANSWER TO THE CHALLENGE OF EUROPEAN ENERGY SECURITY.
A MORE AMBITIOUS RES TARGET IS NEEDED FOR 2030!**

Brussels, 22 September 2014 – The EU renewable industry is calling on EU policy makers to show more ambition for renewables in the future EU climate and energy policy and in the action plan to tackle the energy crisis.



Competition of uses and cascading

- **EU Bioeconomy strategy** (Feb 2012)
 - Cascading principle and competition of uses are part of the debate



Brussels, 25th November 2013

Joint Statement on cascade use of wood

AEBIOM, CEPF, COPA-COGECA, EIPS, ELO, EUSTAFOR



Competition of uses and cascading



European Commission
Enterprise & Industry Directorate General

CALL FOR TENDER

No 394/PP/ENT/RCH/14/7689

STUDY ON OPTIMISED CASCADING USE OF WOOD

Open procedure

TENDER SPECIFICATIONS



EU requirements for bioenergy installations

Clean air package

- December 2013: **Commission's proposal on reducing emissions from Medium Combustion Plants** (1- 50 MW fuel capacity)
- Fill legislation gap: large combustion plants are already subject to a Directive
 - Emissions thresholds for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and particulate matters
- Possible important impacts on bioenergy plants
- **Decision: Member States and European Parliament**
 - AEBIOM position elaborated with experts



EU requirements for bioenergy installations Ecodesign requirement

- Minimum criteria for solid fuel boilers (lot 15) and local space heater (lot 20) with a capacity ≤ 500 kW to be put on the market
- Emissions and energy efficiency criteria
- Possible important impacts on bioenergy appliances
- Member States meeting: 13-14 October
 - An agreement was found - Seems in line with the position of AEBIOM members
 - Waiting for the publication of the final text
 - Entry into force expected in early 2015



Others

- New Common and Agricultural Policy
- EU Forest Strategy
- New EU state aid guidelines for energy and environment
- Etc...



Thank you for your attention!

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