

efuel Alliance: Europe must finally solve its energy dilemmaMonika Griefahn: Delegated act on sustainability criteria for eFuels still missing – eFuel Alliance criticises lack of reliable regulation

Brüssel/Berlin, May 19 2022: The eFuel Alliance has welcomed the EU-Commission's RePowerEU plan as an additional booster for the Fit-for-55 climate package currently discussed in Brussels. "The EU Commission made a clear decision on the direction. In addition to expanding renewable energies domestically, we will have to step up our efforts in global energy partnerships to solve the energy dilemma.," said Dr. Monika Griefahn, founding member of Greenpeace Germany, former Environment minister of Lower Saxony and chair for the eFuel Alliance.

Among other things, the EU Commission proposes to further increase the share of renewable energies in the final energy consumption – instead of 40 percent as originally proposed, the target is now to be raised to 45 percent. Accordingly, the Commission recommends increasing the sub-target for renewable hydrogen and eFuels in transport sector, which is also included in the Renewable Energy Directive, to five percent. "In view of the current energy crisis, this step is absolutely right and an important signal that the European Council and Parliament should now urgently heed," Monika Griefahn welcomed the Commission's move.

However, the chair of the eFuel Alliance expressed her disappointment that the EU Commission – although announced – has still not submitted a delegated act on power purchase criteria for green hydrogen and its derivatives such as eFuels. "We urgently need a pragmatic proposal for the market uptake of eFuels. On the one hand, the EU Commission wants to push the green hydrogen economy, but on the other hand, it is not in a position to present the necessary legislation - yet the deadline for this already expired at the end of last year. There is a glaring gap between aspiration and reality here."

To make the transition to a renewable energy system, the EU should also strengthen the role of hydrogen-based eFuels. Being a climate-neutral energy carrier, eFuels solve the problem of storing and transporting renewable energies. Produced in regions rich in solar and wind energy, eFuels are the most cost-effective solution to unlock the global potential of renewables. "Europe needs to make more timely and targeted efforts to establish energy partnerships on an equal footing with countries where conditions are particularly favorable for electricity production from renewable sources." On average, a wind turbine in Chile has four times more full-load hours than a comparable turbine in Germany. "However, South America as an important strategic energy partner is not on the Commission's radar at all. Instead, the strategy paper focuses on fossil gas like LNG. This is understandable as a short-term measure to cushion the consequences of a potential supply stop from Russia. However, the Commission fails to set the course for long-term sustainable projects at the same time," the expert said. "We need to lay the groundwork today so that we have a diverse energy supply with renewable fuels tomorrow."

Further information: www.efuel-alliance.eu

>>> The eFuel Alliance e.V. <<<

The eFuel Alliance is an interest group working for the political and social acceptance of eFuels and for their approval. We represent more than 170 companies, associations and consumer organizations along the eFuel

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production value chain.

We stand for fair competition and a level playing field for all relevant emission reduction solutions. We are clearly committed to greater climate protection and want to see the significant contribution of eFuels to sustainability and climate protection more widely recognized. Our goal is to enable the industrial production and widespread use of CO₂-neutral fuels from renewable energy sources.

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