

Key European lawmakers set course for scaling up climate-neutral eFuels

European Parliament's Committee on Industry, Research and Energy calls for 45% target for renewables in final energy consumption in 2030 – Carbon neutral synthetic fuels to play prominent role in the sustainable energy transition

Brussels/Berlin, 13 July 2022: On Wednesday, the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy of the European Parliament set an important course for the EU's sustainable energy transition. During the vote on the revision of the Renewable Energy Directive (RED), a centrepiece of the Fit-for-55 climate package, an overwhelming majority of MEPs voted in favour of a 45% share of renewable energy in final energy consumption in Europe by 2030, with renewable hydrogen and climate-neutral synthetic fuels, also known as eFuels, to play a prominent role. The eFuel Alliance welcomes this important decision.

Ralf Diemer, managing director of the eFuel Alliance said: "The committee's vote clearly indicates the path ahead: towards more renewables and away from fossil fuels. Our member companies are ready to play their part and invest in the production of carbon-neutral synthetic fuels to ensure that sufficient and affordable quantities are available in good time."

According to **Ralf Diemer**, today's result is "an important signal to the fuel industry to prepare its business model for the sustainable energy transition. At the same time, it sets clear incentives for investments in renewable fuels." Indeed, industry policymakers propose that in the transport sector alone, renewable fuels of non-biological origin (RFNBOs) – a term that includes both renewable hydrogen and hydrogen-derived carbon-neutral synthetic fuel – should account for at least 5.7% by 2030 instead of just 2.6% as initially proposed by the EU Commission. MEPs also voted in favour of a higher GHG reduction rate of 16% by 2030 instead of only 13% that was proposed by the EU Commission.

"MEPs proved they have a much higher level of ambition than the Commission's proposal. This is important because it will provide us with more renewable fuels to defossilise our existing vehicle fleet and to channel into the so-called hard-to-abate sectors such as aviation and shipping, where electrification is not a viable option," said **Ralf Diemer**.

Ralf Diemer added: "Particularly against the background of current difficult global energy policy developments, and with a view to the objectives of the REPowerEU plan lawmakers need to set ambitious, but feasible renewable energy targets. Only this can boost the market ramp-up of renewable hydrogen and hydrogen based eFuels and provide both the industrial and transport sectors with clean alternatives to fossil fuels in a timely manner."

In addition to the transport sector, RFNBOs have a particularly important role to play in decarbonizing industry. That is why MEPs want their share, both used for final energy and non-energy purposes, to be 50% of the hydrogen used in industry by 2030 and at least 70% already by 2035.

The course has been set – now it is up to the plenary to confirm the position in September before entering into negotiations with the Council on an ambitious EU climate policy.

>>> 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 180 companies, associations and consumer organisations along the eFuel 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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