

End of the road for a one-sided climate policy.

Berlin, London, 18.06.2021: According to recent reports, the EU Commission plans to declare the end of the internal combustion engine by 2035 at the latest. That means that in fourteen (14!) years time we will be saying goodbye to cars as we know and love them.

Transitioning to CO₂-free mobility is not only completely right, it is also important for achieving climate targets. But it must not be done in such a one-sided way. Climate protection must be practical and must have the support of ordinary people, those who buy and drive cars.

With an approach based on applying technical CO₂ emission regulations, the EU Commission cannot achieve the goal of CO₂-free mobility in Europe. Measuring CO₂ emissions only at the tailpipe fails to acknowledge the actual CO₂ footprint of a vehicle, including the CO₂ emissions generated during its operation or production.

What matters is the actual CO₂ consumption over the entire life cycle of a vehicle. The decisive factor is how the energy that is used is generated. Even electric cars are generally not zero-emission vehicles due to the high proportion of electricity that in many EU countries is still generated from coal .

The planned CO₂ regulation is being used by policymakers and car manufacturers to fool customers into believing that they are buying a zero-emission vehicle simply because it is an e-car.

But even cars with combustion engines can be climate-neutral with the help of eFuels, if they are powered by fuels produced from 100% renewable energy sources. Because, once again, it's the CO₂ footprint that counts!

We need an urgent rethink, one that considers the contribution that all energy sources can make to the decarbonisation of mobility. We require an honest assessment of the CO₂ footprint of all energy sources so that genuine climate-neutral mobility becomes a reality.

Relying on only one technology when it comes to zero CO₂ road transport is not only wrong in terms of policy but also harms competition that is essential for the development of the most effective technologies.

We need electromobility just as we need climate-neutral internal combustion engines in order to be able to offer the right solutions for as many different types of transport users as possible.

PRESS RELEASE

We need the right political decisions now in order to bring on stream all the CO2 reduction technologies that will help us achieve our climate targets as quickly as possible. These need to be effective not just at some point in the future when new vehicles enter the market, but also with the existing fleet.

That's why we are calling for the introduction of a voluntary crediting system for renewable fuels in the CO2 fleet regulation. This would mean that, in addition to electromobility, car manufacturers would have a safety net in meeting their fleet targets with eFuels if, for example:

- the roll-out of the charging infrastructure lags behind
- battery prices rise due to material shortages or political dependencies
- electromobility cannot satisfy all customer needs
- the price of electricity rises because we shut nuclear and fossil power plants simultaneously
- job losses are higher than expected

Putting all our eggs in one basket is wrong, not just in terms of industrial policy, but also for the climate we need so urgently to protect.

About eFuel Alliance

The eFuel Alliance is a stakeholder initiative dedicated to the industrial production of synthetic liquid fuels from renewable energies and sustainable biomass. The eFuel Alliance currently has over 130 members along the eFuels value chain. From innovative start-ups such as Synhelion or Sunfire, to mechanical engineering such as Siemens Energy, the fuel industry such as ExxonMobil or Neste, and end-user sectors such as Mazda or Iveco. The goals of the initiative are the recognition of eFuels as an essential component of a European climate protection policy and their equal treatment with other climate protection technologies in the sense of technological openness. The eFuel Alliance is open to all organisations and interested parties who share the goal of establishing and promoting eFuels as a contribution to climate protection and helping them to be accepted worldwide.

Read more on our website: www.efuel-alliance.eu

We are always available for interviews on this exciting topic.

PRESS RELEASE

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