

PRESSRELEASE

Good to go: EU agrees on ramp-up of climate-neutral aviation fuels

Brussels/Berlin, 26 April 2023: In a final trilogue, European lawmakers have reached an agreement on the ReFuelEU Aviation Regulation. From 2030, a blending of 6% of sustainable aviation fuels, which includes both sustainable biofuels and synthetic fuels, is mandatory. With a sub-quota for eFuels of 1.2% in 2030, 2% in 2032 and 5% in 2035, synthetic fuels are to be promoted in the long term. The quotas will gradually increase to reach 70% in 2050, 35% of which will be synthetic fuels. The Council and Parliament thus strive to accelerate the industrial production of climate-neutral aviation fuels in a timely manner.

"There is no alternative to liquid fuels in aviation. In order to pave the way to climate neutrality in this sector as well, it is fundamental to boost the production of climate-neutral liquid eFuels at an early stage. Ambitious quotas are crucial for this. The ReFuelEU Aviation is the only legislation that provides binding quotas for eFuels beyond 2030. This long planning horizon is crucial, especially for scaling eFuels production," said Ralf Diemer, Managing Director of the eFuel Alliance. "The quotas now set gives the industry a concrete roadmap. Nevertheless, the agreed quantities fall short of what would be technically possible and necessary from a climate policy perspective. With the inclusion of low-carbon fuels from nuclear power, a further fulfilment option has also been added without adjusting the quota upwards accordingly. This leaves a large investment margin and further CO₂ savings unused. However, this agreement is a success for the planning and investment security of the industry."

"At the same time, the aspect of global competitiveness of European airlines and hubs must not be neglected," Diemer underlines. "Especially at the beginning of the production ramp-up, quota fulfilment comes with higher costs, which can have a negative impact on competitiveness. That is why the eFuel Alliance, together with the European aviation industry, has worked intensively for the introduction of free certificates within the emissions trading scheme, which should cover the differential costs between eFuels and fossil paraffin, especially at the beginning. This is an important first step, but not enough. This is where policymakers still have some work to do. Better consideration of the many good proposals that the aviation industry has already put forward is essential to maintain the global competitiveness of the European aviation sector," Diemer said.

Ahead of the final trialogue, the industry addressed a [joint letter](#) to the decision-makers at EU level. In it, the industry associations called for ambitious quotas for sustainable aviation fuels.

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

The eFuel Alliance is an interest group committed to promoting political and social acceptance of eFuels and to securing their regulatory approval. We represent more than 170 companies, associations and consumer organizations along the eFuel production value chain. We stand for fair competition and equal competitive condition for all relevant emission reduction solutions. We are firmly committed to further climate change mitigation and seek recognition for the significant part eFuels can play in sustainability and climate protection. Our aim is to create the conditions for the industrial production and widespread use of CO₂-neutral fuels from renewable sources of energy.

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