

## PRESS RELEASE

### 36 Billion More Litres of eFuels: New study pinpoints untapped potential in Europe's unavoidable industrial CO<sub>2</sub> point sources

**Berlin, 3 September 2025:** A [new study by Frontier Economics](#), commissioned by the eFuel Alliance and the Electric Natural Gas-Coalition, maps industrial and biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> point sources across EU Member States and assesses their suitability as feedstock for synthetic fuel production through 2050. The analysis covers the core sectors of industry, power, and biofuel/biomass production.

CO<sub>2</sub> is an essential input for renewable fuels. A functioning CO<sub>2</sub> circular economy would allow hard-to-abate emitters—such as cement and concrete plants, chemicals, and steel—to reduce their footprint by supplying process-related, unavoidable emissions for eFuel production. The study distinguishes these from energy-related emissions that can be reduced or eliminated.

In 2022, up to 828 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> per year could theoretically have been used as feedstock, a figure that declines to 661 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> per year by 2050 as industries decarbonise. Under the current EU framework—including Delegated Act (EU) 2023/1185—industrial CO<sub>2</sub> sources are only eligible until 2041 (power generation until 2036) and must be linked to an “effective carbon pricing system,” a condition that generally does not exist outside Europe.

From 2041 onward, only biogenic point sources may be used, leaving roughly 368 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>/year in practice, of which only a fraction is economically viable. If unavoidable industrial process emissions were also eligible beyond 2041, an additional 130 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>/year could be tapped—enough to produce about 36 billion litres (diesel equivalent) of eFuels in 2050—while projected demand for synthetic fuels in 2050 is estimated at 41–84 billion litres.

“The current rules are too restrictive and slow down industrial scale-up,” said Ralf Diemer, CEO of the eFuel Alliance. “We need a pragmatic path that recognises unavoidable industrial CO<sub>2</sub> point sources as eligible feedstock—and a prompt revision of the Delegated Act to make that possible.” The European Commission is not scheduled to revisit production criteria for green hydrogen and eFuels until July 2028.

“If regulators allow the use and crediting of unavoidable industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the availability and scaling of renewable fuels will accelerate significantly,” Diemer added. “Limiting eligibility to biogenic sources from 2041 onward is holding back viable projects, even though suitable CO<sub>2</sub> point sources are—and will remain—widely available across Europe.”

Dense clusters of industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions exist today in Germany, the Benelux countries, northern Italy, north-east Spain, and southern France. By 2050, chemicals, steel, and cement sites will remain major sources of unavoidable process emissions. Using these streams for eFuel production can help anchor industrial sites and jobs in Europe while creating additional value along the supply chain.

#### >>>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 160 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 CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral fuels from renewable sources of energy.

#### >>>CONTACT<<<

eFuel Alliance e.V.  
Head of Press and Public Relations  
Jan Wehrhold  
T +49 160 6585 763  
E [wehrhold@efuel-alliance.eu](mailto:wehrhold@efuel-alliance.eu)