



23.11.2018

LONG-TERM EMISSIONS REDUCTION STAKEHOLDERS DISCUSS POTENTIAL FOR RENEWABLE LIQUID FUELS

A week away from the release of the European Commission’s 2050 “Long-Term Strategy” for emissions reduction, three Brussels based organisations, Eurofuel, ECFD and UPEi – jointly with their respective German members – presented and debated the results of the Prognos Study “Status and Perspectives for Liquid Energy Sources in the Energy Transition”. The Prognos Study was commissioned by the four organisations representing the mineral oil sector in Germany. Whilst the study focussed on an analysis of the German market, the findings can be extrapolated on an EU wide level. The event was held on 21 November 2018 in Brussels and gathered experts and professionals from the transport and heating fuels sector.

Presenting the study, Jens Hobohm of Prognos AG, explained how the development of Power to Liquid (PtL) or e-fuels would be central to meeting Germany’s GHG emissions goals for 2050. All indications are that, notably for the aviation, maritime and road freight sectors liquid fuels will be required in order to meet the demand for energy density as well as to address other aspects which widespread make (battery) electrification complicated and too costly to achieve. The technology to deliver carbon neutral liquid fuels exists, through the Fischer-



Tropsch process and with the use of renewable electricity, however major investment is required in order to scale up and lower costs in order to bring the product to market.



Debating the study findings was a panel of experts: from the vehicle manufacturers, Ralf Diemer of the VDA office in Brussels, Christian Küchen representing the German refiners association MWV, Johan Mattart head of the ECFD Brussels office and Carlos Calvo Ambel, Manager at T&E for Analysis and Climate. Dave Keating moderated the panel discussion.

Whilst there was broad consensus that e-fuels are a solution for the aviation sector where the limited potential of electrification was acknowledged, speaking for T&E, Carlos Calvo Ambel expressed concerns about the efficiency losses of converting renewable electricity into liquid fuels as opposed to battery technology. Ralf Diemer and Christian Küchen both called for the importance of not limiting the scope of e-fuels to the aviation sector, not only as alternatives to electrification are also needed for other transport sectors, but also because of the limited scope for the aviation sector to undertake the necessary investments required to bring e-fuels to the market. Being able to use existing infrastructure such as internal combustion engine cars or boilers with low-emission liquids in future was also acknowledged by some speakers as an advantage in particular for consumers.

There was a widespread call for political support through the recognition of the role of innovative, carbon-neutral fuels and their incentivisation in the legislative framework, and Johan Mattart warned on the other hand, against restrictive measures which curb investment and innovation.

The full version of the Prognos study can be downloaded [here](#).

The presentation made by Jens Hobohm can be downloaded [here](#).

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About Eurofuel

The European Heating Oil Association (Eurofuel) represents organisations that promote the use of heating oil and liquid fuels for domestic heating in Europe. Our membership covers 10 European countries, including over 10,000 companies. Eurofuel is engaged in the promotion of existing and innovative techniques for liquid fuels for heating and equipment, in the domestic market. In this way, our members are committed to ensuring the competitiveness and efficiency of heating with oil and liquid fuels, while also reducing its environmental footprint.

Find out more at www.eurofuel.eu and follow us on Twitter (@EUROFUELenergy)

About ECFD

The ECFD represents the interests of 10,000 distributors of petroleum products, including domestic heating oil, kerosene, petrol, diesel, gasoil and liquefied petroleum gases (butane, propane, LPG). Its members are essentially family-owned SMEs who supply from the refineries, terminals and their own storage directly to their customers' tanks. Members include the Austrian Association of fuel and petroleum distributors (WKO), the Belgian Federation of Fuel Suppliers (BRAFCO), UNITI, *Bundesverband mittelständischer Mineralölunternehmen e.V.*, the French Fédération Française des Combustibles et Carburants (FF3C), and the UK Federation of Petroleum Suppliers.

Find out more at www.ecfd.be

About UPEI

UPEI – the voice of Europe's independent fuel suppliers – represents nearly 2,000 European importers and wholesale/retail distributors of energy for the transport and heating sectors, supplying Europe's customers independently of the major energy producers. They are the interface between producers and consumers, using their own infrastructure and flexibility to supply existing demand for conventional and renewable liquid fuels, as well as non-liquid alternatives as part of the energy transition. They cover more than a third of Europe's current demand. The organisation brings together national associations and suppliers across Europe.

Find out more at www.ypei.org and follow us on Twitter (@FuelSuppliersEU)