

Press Release

UPEI 2050 vision outlines essential role of independent fuel suppliers in achieving Paris Targets

Brussels – 17 September 2019 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPEI 2050 vision outlines essential role of independent fuel suppliers in achieving Paris Targets

Answering to the European Commission call for feedback on the long-term climate strategy, UPEI, representing Europe's independent fuel suppliers, launches its 2050 vision: short- and long-term recommendations for a carbon neutral society". This objective can only be achieved in an affordable way through the deployment of both electricity and fuels, to maximise emission cuts in the transport and housing sectors, at the lowest cost with the best use of our resources.

UPEI 2050 vision promotes the use of alternative fuels and the improvement of energy efficiency to reduce emissions immediately, while developing carbon neutral fuels to suit all needs and applications in the longer term. These carbon neutral fuels are advanced biofuels and biogases, e-fuels and other solutions such as recycled carbon fuels. They offer many advantages: they feature a significant energy content, and can be moved, stored, and used in the existing distribution infrastructure and appliances. Their production and deployment must be stepped up to deliver their full potential to fight against climate change.

To make this vision a reality, policy enablers are needed. UPEI calls upon governments to adopt a technology neutral approach to the energy transition; ensure a stable policy framework, favourable to investments; define long-term targets rather than market bans; consider social acceptance and affordability; and support innovation in low carbon fuels.

UPEI President Brian Worrall says: "Independent fuel suppliers have developed an expertise in the supply and distribution of fuels and energies. As the interface between energy producers and consumers, they are an essential link in the supply chain to bring low carbon solutions to consumers. Retail stations will also help communicate effectively the energy transition to the consumers."

UPEI Members are committed and will continue to supply reliable, clean, affordable energy to the consumer throughout their extensive geographical reach, especially reaching less accessible areas outside main conurbations, in mountainous and rural areas, where reducing emissions from road mobility and heating & cooling has proven to be challenging. Significant cost savings will result from using the existing infrastructure to store and move products. The deployment of low and carbon neutral fuels in liquid and gaseous form can therefore happen immediately, at no cost, making the most of existing assets and enabling innovation.

The vision paper can be viewed [here](#).

Note to editors

UPEI 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.

Independent fuel suppliers bring competition to Europe's energy market and are able to respond rapidly to changes affecting supply, contributing to security on a local, national and regional level. They have developed and maintain a comprehensive infrastructure for the sourcing, storage and distribution of transport and heating fuels, with a commitment to delivering a high-quality service to all consumers, including those in remote areas.

Since 1962 UPEI has been advocating for a level playing field and fair competition to ensure an affordable, sustainable and secure energy supply for Europe's consumers. Today, in the context of the transition to a low carbon economy, UPEI and its members are also addressing the challenges of adapting the product range and meeting consumer demand through market-oriented solutions.

With its strong track record in pioneering the supply of renewable fuels in the EU, UPEI's members remain committed to delivering and embracing new, cost effective solutions which further promote energy efficiency and reduce pollutants and emissions.

To find out more about UPEI's structure and activities, please visit the website at www.upei.org

Press Contact

The UPEI 2050 vision paper is available [here](#).

Should you require any further information please contact:

UPEI Secretariat
T +32 2 740 20 20
info@upei.org