

Sustainability in EU's New Renewable Energy Regime



Ron van Erck DG Energy, European Commission 14 April 2010

Sustainability criteria for biofuels

- Single EU scheme
 - » Applies to both EU production and imports
 - » Member States cannot set additional criteria
- Apply to single consignments of biofuels
- Have to be met in order to:
 - >> Count toward the targets (10% and the '20%')
 - » Count toward obligations (put on suppliers)
 - » Be eligible for financial support (for their consumption)





Mandatory sustainability criteria

- GHG saving of at least 35%
 - » 50% from 2017
 - >> 60% for new installations from 2018
 - default values and calculation method for actual values included
- No raw material from converted land with:
 - » high biodiversity value
 - » high carbon stock
- Chain of custody must respect mass balance methodology





Commission monitoring and reporting

- Biannual monitoring and reporting (2012-2020)
 - » Land use
 - Soil, water and air protection measures
 - Impacts on biodiversity
 - » Social issues
 - >> Food security, wider development issues
 - Commodity price changes





Implementation





Who is responsible for compliance?

- Not prohibited to produce or sell unsustainable biofuels in EU
- Economic operator benefiting from support or under blending obligation typically under requirement to provides evidence



Without such evidence Member State may not give support / allow to count towards quota



How can operator comply with regime?

- Member States need to set up system (incl. requiring adequate standard of independent auditing)
- 2. Commission can recognise 'voluntary schemes'. Member States <u>must</u> accept this evidence.
- 3. International agreements





Land use and GHG savings: evidence

1. Land use:

- Commission does not give limited list for types of proof
- » Maps (can be recognised)

2. GHG savings

- » Generic default values
 - evidence of feedstock;
 - evidence concerning emissions from land use change
- Default values with specified conversion process
 - » evidence on conversion process
- Actual values (in combination with disaggregated default values)
 - » Calculation methodology









 Reporting requirements for companies on other issues (e.g. social/environmental)

- Commission intends to send draft decision to Advisory Committee within few weeks
- No consequences of non compliance for poor performance on these criteria





Completion of criteria

- Biodiverse grasslands
 - » Consultation
- Definition of certain degraded lands
- Comitology (PRAC): objective to send draft decision May





Directive follow-up sustainability

- Communication on the practical implementation of the sustainability scheme (timetabled for april 2010)
 - Mass balance, standard of independent auditing
 - Assessment procedure voluntary schemes
 - » Guide on carbon stocks





- Recognise voluntary schemes as appropriate through Comitology (Advisory)
- To allow full recognition, sustainability criteria need to be finalised
- Partial recognition is possible
- Commission will publish decision on transparency platform (DG ENER website)
- After request from scheme:
 - assessment report (within 2 months)
 - » Draft decision to Committee and (if positive) Parliament
 - Total process expected 6 months





Directive follow-up sustainability

 Update/add default GHG values as appropriate (Annex V)

 Report/possible proposal indirect land use change -> 2010





More information on: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/index_en.htm



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