

EEF INFORMATION BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2019 EDITION



DINNER DEBATE

EU Green Deal: gas infrastructure as an energy carrier on the road to 2050
Tuesday 12 November 2019 - BRUSSELS



BRIEFING FOR MEPs ADVISORS & ASSISTANTS

All you always wanted to know on gas
Thursday 14 November 2019 - BRUSSELS



DINNER DEBATE

Sector integration: gas driving the energy transition
Tuesday 26 November 2019 - STRASBOURG

Exchange of views with the Finnish Presidency: enabling a sustainable transition in energy and marine transport

Tuesday 1 October 2019, Brussels

Hosted by Wärtsilä

The Finnish Presidency of the Council of the EU was the EEF guest for a lively discussion on the transition of the energy and marine transport sectors.



The Council of the EU is currently discussing how to achieve the EU climate targets. **Riku Huttunen, Director-General of the Energy Department at the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment of Finland**, said tools are at least as important as final objectives. Implementation of the current legislation, development of innovative technologies, smart sector integration as well as the adoption of a holistic perspective will be key to achieving climate neutrality by 2050.

Marco Wirén, President of Energy Solution and Executive Vice-President of Wärtsilä, explained achieving the EU climate objectives calls for an increase in the share of less predictable renewable energy sources (RES). Getting to a 100% renewable future is feasible, but reliable, fast-flexible back-up solutions as well as storage facilities are needed to successfully cope with RES lack of predictability before turning fossil fuels down. Embracing a holistic and system-level approach is fundamental to find the solutions best capable of granting the flexibility required.

Executive Vice-President of Wärtsilä Kari Hietanen focused on the energy transition of the marine transport sector: optimization based on data, energy efficiency and energy source will be the main contributors. Coopera-

tion between different industries and technologies, a regulatory ecosystem enabling the sharing of data, as well as the deployment of new technologies are required to optimize vessels' voyage and improve energy efficiency. As for the energy source, existing infrastructures could be used to move towards biofuels as well as synthetic gases. The decarbonisation of gas appears as a mandatory part of the journey, both in the energy and marine transport sectors.



Professor Klaus-Dieter Borchardt, Deputy Director-General for ENERGY at the European Commission, explained the Green Deal is based on the Energy Union: actual implementation of what has been done under its umbrella is key to achieving the EU climate targets and move further. He agreed on the adoption of a holistic approach. This enables to bring together the energy transition of the production and consumption sides, as well as to understand the Green Deal should not be reduced to sustainability: energy security and competitiveness are also important dimensions to be considered. Prof. Borchardt called for a push to the decarbonisation of the marine sector and recognized gas still has a role to play both within this framework and in the energy transition at large.

Energy Transition: towards the final energy mix in 2050

Tuesday 16 October 2019, Brussels

Hosted by CEZ & PKEE

Both DG ENERGY and DG FISMA took part in the debate on the challenges that Central-Eastern European Countries face in their transition towards a low-emission energy system, with a special focus on financing.

The CEO of Tauron Polska Energia & Vice-President of PKEE Filip Grzegorzczuk explained that Poland has undertaken several actions in terms of energy transition, but still has a long way to go to meet the EU climate goals. Solidarity, fairness, technical feasibility and cost-effectiveness should be the principles guiding the EU transition. Respecting them would require helping Member States bear the costs of the process, promoting initiatives enabling the deployment of low-carbon solutions in a technology-neutral manner as well as establishing burden-sharing mechanisms dedicated to the particular Member State.



The transition will result in higher electrification of the energy system, thus increasing electricity demand. Europe risks ending up divided into energy deficit and energy surplus countries, as shown by Jaroslav Míl, Special Envoy for Nuclear Energy at the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic. The Czech Republic believes the principle of technological neutrality would be key to avoiding this scenario. The possibility to deploy renewables differs among countries, as do climate conditions. No technological approach should be excluded from the future energy mix, provided it helps reach the EU targets.

Martin Spolc, Head of Unit «Financial technology and sustainable finance» at DG FISMA, recognised the energy transition is a challenging project requiring unity. Financing sus-



tainable growth is a crucial part of the journey supporting economic growth in the path towards climate neutrality. The public sector alone cannot provide for all the financing aid required: private capital flows are also to be mobilised. Based on the principle of technological neutrality, the taxonomy proposed by the European Commission could be of help, facilitating dialogue between investors and corporates by bringing clarity on which economic activities are environmentally sustainable and which are not.

Lukasz Kolinski, Head of Unit «Economic analysis and Financial instruments» at DG ENERGY, said the importance of the Integrated National Plans for Energy and Climate should not be underestimated. These have the potential to lead to a 40% GHG reduction by 2030, although gaps still remain with reference to energy efficiency. Achieving climate neutrality will result in an extraordinary transformation of the EU energy and economy, as well as in an investment challenge being asymmetric both across countries and regions. Sector integration, novel technologies and a strong spirit of solidarity will be key to succeeding in the process.



Circular energy: how waste contributes to clean cities and mobility

Tuesday 22 October 2019, Strasbourg

Hosted by CEWEP and Tractebel

This dinner-debate provided us with the opportunity to discuss the contribution that Waste-to-Energy can bring to the decarbonisation of the EU economy and linking it with hydrogen production to achieve local circular opportunities.

Paul de Bruycker, CEWEP President explained that according to CEWEP's calculations, even if the Circular Economy Package targets on municipal waste are reached, million tons of non-recyclable waste will still need treatment in 2035. Reducing landfilling and increasing energy efficiency will be future challenges to tackle. Waste to Energy (WtE) plants can build up the Circular economy in two different ways, firstly by turning non-recyclable waste into secure energy and extracting raw materials from the bottom ashes and secondly by dealing with unwanted organic and inorganic components. Mr De Bruycker presented two concrete projects of CEWEP illustrating how energy coming from WtE plants can be used: the industrial symbiosis in the Port of Antwerp (Belgium), consisting of a WtE plant able to deliver steam to local industries and the generation of energy from a WtE plant located in Wuppertal (Germany) used partly for heating and cooling and partly to produce Hydrogen which is then applied to mobility.



Lorena Iglesias, Hydrogen Product Manager of Tractebel, focused her speech on the role of hydrogen (H₂) in making the energy sector, mobility and industry cleaner. The Waste-to-Wheels model, whose ambition is to create a zero-emission mobility for the Waste collection at acceptable costs, can deliver economic, social and operational benefits at the local level.

The advantage of this model is the possibility to avoid excessive investments in refuelling stations thanks to the proximity of the incinerator. Waste-to-wheels is being applied to a series of projects such as REVIVE, a European project aiming to develop high performance fuel cell refuse trucks. Ms Iglesias emphasised that hydrogen, obtained in a sustainable manner, will be a key carrier to be used locally for heating, cooling, industry, mobility and for serving the grids in a flexible and auxiliary way.



Bart Biebuyck, Executive Director of Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCH JU) asserted that in addition to the reduction of CO₂ emissions and the contribution to the economic growth, fuel cells and H₂ can be considered as an alternative solution to the dependence on hydrocarbons. Different types of plant located around the world already use fuel cells and H₂ technologies to produce heat and power intended for various applications. As a sectorial integrator, H₂ could realise symbiosis of cooling, heating, industry and transport. "We need to address H₂ as a pivotal energy carrier in EU legislation in a more ambitious way and to invest in H₂ fuel cells and H₂ related technologies in order to permit not only the abatement of CO₂ emissions, but also the achievement of additional annual revenue and the creation of millions of jobs by 2050."

OUR MEMBER'S SIDE

MEP Judith Bunting becomes Active Member



Judith Bunting is a member of the Renew Europe Group and comes from United Kingdom. Ms Bunting sits on the CULT Committee of the European Parliament and is member substitute of ITRE Committee. She is also Vice-Chair of the Delegation for relations with the Korean Peninsula and member substitute of the Delegation for relations with India.

A new representative for EDF



Diplomatic Adviser to EDF's CEO since 2016, **Erkki Maillard** has recently been nominated EDF Group Senior Vice-President EU affairs. Prior to that, he has been Adviser to several French Ministries (Foreign and European Affairs, Higher Education). Before, Mr Maillard worked in several countries, including at the French embassy in China (Beijing) and in Italy (Rome).

A new representative for UFE



Alice Franz recently joined the UFE (Union Française de l'Electricité) team as head of EU and International Affairs. Alice has built her experience in various EU associations. Before joining UFE, she worked for 3 years at CEDEC, the EU association representing local energy companies. Previously, she was in charge of energy and environmental issues at EBC, the confederation representing construction SMEs in Europe.



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