



Editorial

Biofuels

At the beginning of May, the EEF went on a **fact-finding mission to Singapore and Malaysia** to learn about biofuel and the way in which it is produced. The visit included a tour of the Neste Oil refinery in Singapore and of the Sime Darby Oil Palm plantation near Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia, and meetings with the Malaysian Palm Oil Board as well as with NGOs and civil society organisations.

The delegations of the European Union in Singapore and in Malaysia also attended the meetings.

This visit provided the MEPs with an opportunity to ask their questions and get in-depth answers on different issues concerning biofuels. These issues included: fuel produced from palm oil and from waste, sustainability, CO2 emissions, air quality, rules in place when buying from farmers, trade issues, as well as concerns about the environmental and social impacts of palm oil use expansion.

A more detailed report will be published in the coming weeks.

Pascale Verheust
Director General

Upcoming events

21/05/2013 Dinner-debate in Strasbourg
Energy Post 2020 roadmap for the Chemical industry
At the invitation of CEFIC

28/05/2013 Dinner-debate in Brussels
Vision for Sustainable Shipping in the EU: Fuelling the Future of Transport
At the invitation of Wärtsilä

18/06/2013 Dinner-debate Brussels
Smart Meters & Consumer: what happens to my data?
At the invitation of ESMIG

September will be a consumer month

We will debate how to improve consumer satisfaction in the energy retail market with the perspective from a regulator (E-control) and the perspective from an energy company (EWE).

02/09/2013 Dinner-debate in Brussels
Consumer Energy Retail Markets in Europe - 12 Years after Liberalization
At the invitation of **E-Control**

10/09/2013 Dinner-debate in Strasbourg
Consumer orientation as a competitive advantage in the energy retail market
At the invitation of **EWE**



Palm Oil plantation in Malaysia



EEF events

Air quality in Europe: the future is electric

23/04/2013: Dinner-debate in Brussels

At the invitation of Eurelectric



With the EU Commission currently undertaking a review of EU air policy, the dinner-debate on air quality in Europe was an occasion to discuss about the remaining challenges that should be taken into account to tackle air pollution and help reducing its negative impact both on the environment and citizens' health as well as to look into the contribution of the electricity sector on this issue.



*During the intervention, Mr **Hans ten Berge**, Secretary General of **Eurelectric**, shared the expectations of the electricity industry on air quality regulations: "We should deliver on the electrification. We would want that the conversion factor is revisited, we would like to see that the measurements are made in a more coherent way and we think this would result in a significant reduction in the NOx and a significant reduction in the dust particles in the cities which are the result of the transport sector and we could give a huge contribution to that."*



*Following the speech of Mr ten Berge, Ms **Elena Višnar Malinová**, member of Commissioner Potočnik's cabinet, responsible for air quality, reported on some comforting news on the orientations for the air quality review. According to Ms Višnar "nobody is challenging or questioning the signs of air quality. The second good conclusion is that nobody wants to weaken the existing air quality standards (...). The third news is that there is a strong push also for synergies between policies: climate change, energy and air quality; and this is what we want to achieve."*

General Assembly

17/04/2013: Internal Meeting in Strasbourg

At the invitation of EEF



Active members got together in Strasbourg for the General Assembly meeting to approve the results 2012 and the budget 2013 and to discuss about potential debates and activities to be organized by the EEF.

EEF Active members are MEPs from all political parties and nationalities. Please the current list of active members in our [website](#).



Members news and energy events



Eurelectric

14/05/2013

On 14 May EURELECTRIC will convey the results of their innovation action plan to a high level conference in Brussels with the participation of EU Commissioner Günther Oettinger, while putting forward recommendations to European policy makers.

<http://www.europeanenergyforum.eu/library/news-from-members/conference-powering-innovation-empowering-utilities-brussels>

GIE

23-24/05/2013

GIE (Gas Infrastructure Europe) is organising its 11th annual conference on 23 and 24 May in Venice.

<http://www.europeanenergyforum.eu/library/news-from-members/gie-annual-conference-venice-2013>

Geode

29/05/2013

The spring seminar organised by our Associate Member Geode in Brussels intends to give response to a crucial issue: how to get the necessary investments to bring intelligence to the grid.

<http://www.europeanenergyforum.eu/library/news-from-members/seminar-bringing-intelligence-grid-investments-distribution-networks-are-v>

European Solar days

1-19/05/2013

On Wednesday 15 May, our Associate Member the European Photovoltaic Industry Association (EPIA) will organise a Networking Cocktail in the Renewable Energy House in Brussels to celebrate the European Solar Days along with European Solar Thermal Industry Federation (ESTIF).

<http://www.europeanenergyforum.eu/library/energy-news/european-solar-days>