

INFORSE-EUROPE

International Network for Sustainable Energy

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March 8, 2011

Roadmap 2050 Misses 100% Renewable Energy and Options for Fair Reductions

Press Release with Comments from INFORSE-Europe:

Background: The EU Commission has released its Energy Roadmap 2050 with a scenario for 80% reductions of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 on March 8, 2011.

Opinion: Unfortunately, the Roadmap 2050 misses the opportunity to evaluate stronger greenhouse gas reductions, in line with the technical potential and the 80-95% reductions called for by the EU leaders.

Proposal: Aim higher! We call on the EU to go beyond the current 80 % reductions by 2050 of the Roadmap 2050 and include scenarios for 100% renewable energy by 2050 or earlier, scenarios that could show total greenhouse gas reductions near to 95%. Ambitious targets are needed as well as reduction of the excess allowances (EU-ETS).

*Several independent scenarios are showing how the EU energy supply can be covered 100% by renewable energy in 2050 or earlier*¹

*NGOs and industry are forming growing strong coalitions calling for 100% renewable energy in the EU and INFORSE-Europe invites others to join*²

In a situation where *fossil fuel prices* are reaching record levels and *climate change* seems more severe than expected, the *EU must take bold steps* to reduce emissions and fossil fuel use. ***EU must give a response that is adequate to the urgency of the problems.*** This include setting ***ambitious targets*** for 2020, such as 30% reductions from 1990, setting targets for 2030, and not being afraid of discussing a transition to 100% renewable energy.

The EU also has to see also that a growing renewable energy European industry brings a *competitive advantage to EU and jobs.*

The scenarios must be followed up with policies, including policies to reduce emissions in the next decade. One of the most needed policy decisions is to ***reduce the excess of allowances in the EU emissions trading system (EU-ETS)***, by reducing allowances in the coming period and by devaluating the excess allowances carried over from the current EU-ETS period to the next. The use of excess allowances will lead to windfall profits of industries that got them for free and are not using in this period. Just to let these credits be used instead of reductions until 2020 is neither fair nor leading to optimal reductions.

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¹ INFORSE-Europe has proposed that EU turns to 100% renewable energy by 2040 and has developed a scenario to show the transition. The scenario includes 2-4 factor energy efficiency. See: <http://www.inforse.org/europe/Vision2050.htm>

² Declaration is open to join. It is initiated by Greenpeace, EREC and EUFORES (January, 2011), and supported by NGO networks (INFORSE-Europe, EEB, CAN-Europe, FoE-Europe, WWF) and national NGOs (e.g., Germanwatch), European renewable energy industry associations (EWEA, EUBIA, EPIA, ESTIF, ESHA, AEBIOM, EOE), 38 members of the European Parliament., and companies. See: <http://www.100percentrenewables.eu/>