

## January 2008 Overview

### 1. EHA in Action

**EHA session at the European Sustainable Energy Week a success 2008-01-30.** The EHA session “Hydrogen in the City!. Sustainable urban hydrogen projects to reduce local emissions” at the European Sustainable Energy Week on January 30, was well attended and saw a line-up of presentations that ranged from an update on the status of the Joint Undertaking for Fuel cells and Hydrogen (FCHInstruct), to urban projects around Europe (H2movesEU), the fuel cell and hydrogen activities of a multinational automotive company (Ajusa), hydrogen production from biomass (Linde), the Hydrogen Bus Alliance, to the development of a hydrogen/natural gas infrastructure in Italy. The EHA session at this important annual event of the Commission is an excellent opportunity to present concrete developments in our sector to EU decision makers and other European organizations. All presentation can be downloaded from the EHA website.

**EHA fixed meeting date with Responsible officer at DG Enterprise to discuss the authorisation of small hydrogen reformers in the new proposal of the IPPC Directive.** 2008-01-27 The new IPPC proposal was presented by the Commission on December 21, 2007 and did not include the EHA and EIGA suggestions to facilitate the authorisation of small hydrogen reformers of less than 100kg/hour. The meeting that was requested by the EHA will be held on February 14, 2008 and EHA members are invited to communicate their comments or suggestions before that date to the secretariat at [info@h2euro.org](mailto:info@h2euro.org).

**EHA met with leaders of Slovenian Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Platform.** 2008-01-10 As Slovenia took over the EU presidency on January 1 and it seems that it intends to support the fast approval of the JTI FCH dossier, the EHA met with the coordinators of the Slovenian Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Platform to discuss the organisation of a meeting of national responsible officers for hydrogen and fuel cell activities supported by the Slovenian presidency. This activity was one of the suggested themes of collaboration with the JTI interim office FCH Instruct.

**EU Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) and Hydrogen installations.** 2008-01-04. The EHA requested a meeting with the responsible officer for the draft EU proposal (attached) for a new ETS Directive amending the ETS Directive 2003/87/EC to improve and extend the EU Greenhouse emission allowance trading system. On page 18 is mentioned that to Annex 1 (of Directive 2003/87/EC) will be added: "The Production of hydrogen H<sub>2</sub> and syngas by steam reforming and partial oxidation with a production capacity exceeding 25 tons per day." The EHA has informed its industrial members of the proposed changes to prepare a proper response. In the Energy and Climate Package that was presented by the Commission last January 23 this specific passage

could not be traced. At the last EHA Board meeting it was decided to prepare a short position paper on this issue to submit at the proposed meeting with the Commission.

## 2. EHA Promotion

### **Press**

From December 14 till January 28, 2008 the EHA session was advertised in the Euractiv newsletter with a banner in the Transport and Sustainable Development and on the main page. A subsequent campaign is planned for the end of March to announce EHA participation at the Hanover Fair.

### **Membership:**

1. ENI officially confirmed membership of the EHA ;
2. The coordinator of the Slovenian Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Platform confirmed the interest of the Platform to become EHA member.

### **Conferences::**

1. EHA will be present at International Hydrogen Seminar in Fukuoka Japan on February 6-7, 2008 at the International Hydrogen Development Forum to present HyApproval project and local hydrogen project development;
- 2.. 14th Group Exhibit Hydrogen + Fuel Cells, April 21-25, 2008 in Hannover, the EHA has confirmed a 10m" booth space. Like last year the EHA is collaborating with the DWV to present national association members activities and national association members are invited to communicate their interest to be a co exhibitor that allows them a presence with posters and brochures at the stand. The EHA also will also co-organize a seminar at the Fair to present the HyApproval, HYPER and H2 Training projects on Wednesday 23, 2008 at 1600 at the Group Exhibit..

## EHA Taskforces

**1. Hydrogen in the City:** The EHA will attend the next meeting of the Taskforce set up by the Commission to facilitate the creation of the European Regions and Municipalities Partnership for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells (HyRaMP). The EHA has proposed to facilitate organizational and secretarial support for the first year of the Partnership. The first meeting of the Regional Partnership is planned for the week of April 14. EHA national association members are invited to communicate potentially interested regions to the EHA secretariat at [info@h2euro.org](mailto:info@h2euro.org).

**2. Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET Plan).**The EHA reached its objective to include hydrogen and more specifically the use of hydrogen as a storage and buffer in future distributed energy grids in the SET Plan that was presented on November 22, 2007. The dossier will now make its round in the EU Parliament and the Council of the E. The EHA is planning a meeting with key renewable organisations and renewable industry representatives to discuss concrete energy chains that include renewable energy sources and hydrogen the beginning of February.

### 3. EHEC.

The Dutch Association has initiated a court action the beginning of December last year to force the EHEC 2007 Foundation to open its books and to speed up a solutions for outstanding payments of creditors and paid registrants. The court decision is expected on February 8. The EHA board decided to invite all EHA member association to communicate their potential interest in organizing the next EHEC planned for the middle of 2009.

### 4. EHA Statutes

A proposal is being prepared to adapt the Statutes to allow local communities and small and medium sized companies active in hydrogen developments to join the EHA. The new Statutes will then be submitted to the next AGM for general approval.

## 3 EU News

**Energy and Climate Action Plan presented by the Commission, 2008/01/23** The European Commission presented its Climate and Energy Package including::

- Reform of EU emissions trading scheme (ETS); *hydrogen installation of more than 25 tons a day are included*;
- National targets for greenhouse gas emissions in non-ETS sectors (buildings, transport, agriculture);
- Directive on Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS);
- Renewable energy and biofuels directive; *electricity produced by hydrogen from renewable energy is counted towards the renewable energy targets, but only hydrogen from biomass is counted towards the 10% biofuels target*.
- Reform of environmental state aid guidelines.

The EHA invited the responsible officer for biofuels policy to its last Board meeting (see attached presentation). It was decided to prepare a position paper to request the Commission to include hydrogen produced by all renewable sources, including from wind and solar.

**The Commission presented revived proposal for the promotion of clean and energy efficient vehicles.** 2008/01/01 Just before Christmas the Commission presented a new version of an old proposal of 2005 to promote public procurement of clean transport vehicles. According to the new proposal public authorities as of 2012 will be obliged to include environmental criteria when acquiring vehicles, including life-cycle costs for fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> and other pollutant emissions, The old proposal of 2005 called for 25% of all heavy-duty vehicles (buses and trucks of over 3.5 tonnes) purchased or leased by public bodies to meet an EU "enhanced environmentally friendly" standard. But the draft legislation was not adopted by the European Parliament. The new proposal covers all road vehicles procured by public authorities, rather than just the heavy ones (one quarter), thus affecting the purchases of roughly 110,000 passenger cars, 110,000 light commercial vehicles, 35,000 lorries and 17,000 buses. The measure is expected to facilitate the commercial market of technologies

such as biofuels, hydrogen, natural gas or LPG, electric or hybrid vehicles. The inclusion of lifetime costs for fuel, CO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, non-methane hydrocarbons and particulate matter (PM) would increase the price of a normal bus up from around €150,000 to €594,030 – meaning that it would become more interesting to pay a higher price up-front for a cleaner and more fuel-efficient vehicle with lower fuel energy consumption and emissions. It is estimated that energy savings of 22% could be achieved by 2017 under the new measure, as well as a 29% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The proposal comes as part of plans put forward in September, with the presentation by EU Transport Commissioner Jacques Barrot of a new Green Paper on urban transport.

#### 4. National News

##### **France**

In view of the French presidency of the EU starting this June, the French Hydrogen Association, AFH2, organized a seminar to highlight the role of hydrogen in the future energy system on January 23, featuring an impressive programme of presentations of heads of industry and government officials. More than 200 participants attended the event. For more info please visit the association's website at [www.afh2.org](http://www.afh2.org)

##### **Italy**

**Italian government budget for 2008 included €10 mln for hydrogen and related Technologies, 2008-01-01.** Although the government of Romano Prodi fell on January 25, his former government approved €10 mln for 2008 for hydrogen and related technologies. Together with an already announced call for proposals of the Industria 2015 programme to be issued around the end of February beginning of March, the year did not start too bad for hydrogen in Italy .

##### **Spain**

**The Spanish Hydrogen Association announced opening off the National Centre on Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technology Experimentation ( [www.cnetnpc.es](http://www.cnetnpc.es))** in Spain.

The Centre has been created as a Consortium of the Spanish Ministry for Education And Science and the Castilla-La Mancha Regional Government, as part of the implementation of the Spanish Roadmap of Scientific and Technological Facilities. The Consortium established its headquarters in Puertollano (Ciudad Real). The Consortium will take care of the management and stimulation of the scientific, economic, technical and administrative collaboration of the involved entities The CNETHPC is devoted to scientific and technology research related to hydrogen and fuel cell technologies and is open to international collaboration.

#### 5. News form the secretariat

Linda Romans of the Maastricht Business School has started her 6 month internship at the EHA office She will be assisting in collecting updates of local projects in Europe including those of EHA members (be prepared!), scheduling and preparing presentations and in developing new communication activities.