

May 2008 Overview

1. EHA in Action

EHA elected vice chair of the Education Working Group of the IPHE. 2008-05-28
The Working Group on Education of the IPHE has elected the EHA as vice chair. The EHA will present educational activities at the Educational session at the WHEC in Brisbane. The EHA is collaborating with other organisations in the HYFED 6 secretariat in Brussels that is collecting and disseminating information on educational programs and materials in Europe.

EHA attended EP Committee meeting on proposal for Directive of Procurement of clean road transport vehicles. 2008-05-27. The rapporteur Dan Jorgenson has inserted a reference to hydrogen vehicles in the Recital 11a , urging the Commission to consider “how transparent and non-discriminatory rules of provision of national and community aid for such investments could be established and maintained to the benefit of the environment”. The new Directive requires the inclusion of operational lifetime costs of energy consumption, CO2 emissions, pollutant emissions as award criteria in the procurement of road transport vehicles.

EHA attended EP Committee meeting on recast version of the IPPC Directive. 2008-05-26. At the discussion in the Environment Committee of the EU Parliament, the Commission mentioned that infringement procedures have started towards Member States that have not yet respected the deadline of October 2007 to issue the new permits. Rapporteur Holger Kramer suggested to include installations that are 500% over the max. emission limits as local situations will influence the “bandwidth.”
Time line: EP rapport is finished June 17, 2008. The EHA has submitted its suggestion to consider the negative consequences for smaller reformers to Mr. Kramer:
"The European Hydrogen Association (EHA) suggestion is regarding the need for authorisation of hydrogen generating installations regardless the size of the system. Currently, the IPPC Directive is asking for an authorization of any hydrogen generators of any size. In comparison hydrogen storage up to 1 ton is subject only to a declaration. The authorisation requirement in the IPPC Directive implies a very long delivery time for small hydrogen generators. We therefore suggest to change the authorisation requirement in the IPPC Directive into a declaration requirement for systems that produce less than 100kg of hydrogen per hour, above this limit the authorisation requirement remains mandatory. This would facilitate the early market development of hydrogen and fuel cell applications in Europe and reinforce the global market position of European companies active in this sector."

EHA met with chair Research Grouping of the JTI. 2008-05-26 The EHA met with Paul Lucchese chair of the JTI Research Grouping N.ERGHY to discuss better coordination of national and local research activities. The EHA presented its work on an accessible database of EU and national R&D project results, a laborious task as not all EU projects give easy access to their publishable results and the Cordis website mainly refers to general project descriptions

EHA presented at Hydrogen and Fuel cell Observatory Seminar at Bocconi University in Milan, 2008-05-23 The European Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Business Observatory organised a international seminar on monitoring the uptake of hydrogen and fuel cell markets. The Observatory has been coordinated by Bocconi University and started as one of the first activities of the Taskforce Finances of the Italian Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association H2IT. The main European universities and business schools active in monitoring this market participate in the Observatory.

EHA attended EP Hearing on the proposed EU Emission Trading System Phase 3. 2008-05-15. The meeting was chaired by the rapporteur of the dossier, Avril Doyle. An overview of the keynote speakers: Mogens Peter Carl, director General DG Environment: IPCC reached virtual consensus on human impact on climate change. International negotiations are making slow progress; they would move forward if the EU could demonstrate that reducing in emissions ia economically feasible. There is growing agreement on the structure of the EU Climate Action Package. ETS is based on principle of efficiency and equity between memberships. Five issues emerged as most critical: 1. Choice between 20 or 30% total reduction; 2. Energy intensive industries; 3. Deforestation; 4. Clean development mechanism; 5. National developments. Vittorio Prodi suggested to allocate one allowance per EU citizen. Jos Delbeke, deputy general director of DG Environment pointed out that the ETS is not a revenue intended measure. Partial Free Allocation could be linked to benchmarking of certain high emitting activities. It is very hard to compare national emitting habits; it is very hard for the Commission to earmark the revenues.

EHA attended honorary doctorate ceremony at Leuven for Claude Mandil former secretary general of the IEA. 2008-05-14. The EHA was invited by the Energy Institute of the University of Leuven to the ceremony of the honorary doctorate of Claude Mandil. In his speech Dr. Mandil referred to the need to test feasibility of sustainable hydrogen production on a large scale. The EHA presented Mr. Mandil the brochure "Where will the energy for hydrogen production come from?" and referred to the new EHA paper "Hydrogen and fuel cells as strong partners of renewable energy systems."

EHA attended extraordinary meeting on the proposed EU Emission Trading System for third phase. 2008-05-07. Avril Doyle, the main rapporteur of the EU Parlaiment for the ETS dossier, commented that the scientists who according to Ms. Doyle are almost universally agree on the human impact and scale on climate change, have been let down by politicians. She referred specifically to electrolysis. She mentioned that she will include a proposal to create coalition of the willing (of Member States) that insist that the € 40 bln per year of ETS revenue out of the auctioning is earmarked for mitigation of de-forestation, CCS

and renewable..She insists on an international agreement on ETS. 1 or 2 % increase in efficiency of coal plants reduces more CO₂ than the renewable energy targets. She does not want to introduce tariffs to avoid serious economic consequences for European industries..Shadow rapporteur Elisa Ferreira commented that the EU needs to step away from. National Allocation Plans. 25% reduction is needed but Member States agreed to 20%. The Commission explained the role of auctioning; there will be harmonized rules for auctioning at MS level. EU could propose a common system. Carbon leakage is important when there will be no international agreement; border adjustment measures might be an option. Criteria will be defined when there is an international agreement; by June 2010

EHA met with main advisor of Belgian government on Energy and Transport to discuss integration of clean energy systems for European quarter in Brussels .

2008-05-05 The EHA met with William D'Haeseleer director of the Energy Institute at the University of Leuven and author of the Belgian Energy White Paper that was published last year. Prof. D'Haeseleer is members of several high level EU advisory groups, including on the EU Strategic Energy Technology Plan. Hsi institute also developed a master course in energy technologies including hydrogen and fuel cells that confronts the different option. The EHA presented the latest developments in hydrogen infrastructure build up and system improvements . Prof D'Haeseleer is interested to collaborate on developing a clean energy technology integration plan for the new European quarter that has been proposed by EU president Barosso.

2. EHA Promotion

Press

An EHA press release was sent on May 30 to announce the inauguration of the European Regions and Municipalities Partnership on hydrogen and fuel cells.

Membership

EHA has communicated the EHA Board decision to open membership to community organisations like Regions to the HyRaMP Board. The EHA since April of this year is hosting the secretariat

Conferences

- EHA vice president Johannes Toepler will present educational activities in hydrogen and fuel cell activities in Europe at the WHEC 2008 in Brisbane;
- EHA presented regional activities at seminar of European Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Business Observatory on May 23, 2008 in Milan;
- EHA will present regional developments at seminar with Region of Liguria secretary of energy on June 7, 2008

3. EHA Taskforces

1. Hydrogen in the City:

The EHA has started its support of the HyRaMP secretariat and facilitates the

organisation of the first HyRaMP Board meeting and Handover of relevant road2HyCom and Hylights project results on June 3, 2008 in Brussels.

2. Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET Plan).

The new EHA brochure “Hydrogen and fuel cells as strong partners of renewable energy systems” has gone to press. The first copies will be distributed by the German Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association at the WHEC in Brisbane. The responsible officer for SET Plan Stefan Tostmann has been invited to the EHA AGM cocktail on June 30, 2008 to receive the first official copy.

3. EHEC.

The EHA repeated its request to the organiser of the Grove event to send their proposal for a potential collaboration with the EHEC. EHA discussed integration of EHEC conference in FCH Stakeholders event in 2009 with the FCH Instruct responsible officer, the intention will be communicated to the Program Office of the JTU.

4. Statutes

The proposal for the change in the EHA Statutes to allow community organisations to join the EHA has been approved by the EHA Board together with an adjustment of the membership fees. The EHA AGM will have the final decision June 30, 2008 in Brussels.

3 EU News

Industries call for EU financial support measures for CCS. 2008-05-28. At a Workshop at the EU Parliament on Carbon Capture Sequestration (CCS), the EU Emission Trading System was seen as not sufficient to ensure a commercial market for CCS. E.ON pointed to a CO₂ price of €35 in order for CCS plants to break even. Alstom stressed technical feasibility of CCS and GE and Schlumberger announced an alliance agreement to advance CCS. The agreement combines GE’s experience with integrated gasification combined cycle with carbon capture capabilities and Schlumberger’s geologic storage expertise. Three CCS technologies are being discussed for the first 12 demonstration plants operational by 2015. Only the pre-combustion technology offers the possibility to produce hydrogen. It is not clear if this technology will be included in the 12 plants. The new Commission guidelines facilitate State Aid support for CCS. Some funding is available in FP7 and in structural funds. A European Industry Initiative (EII), as mentioned in the EU Strategic Energy Technology Plan, will be established by the end of this year. The French presidency has announced an Action plan for CCS before the end of this year. It will be important to communicate to the French government the need to include pre-combustion plants in the 12 proposed plants.

EU Regulation on the homologation of hydrogen vehicles approved by EU Parliament Committee. 2008-05-27 The EU Parliament Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection approved the report of rapporteur Anja Weisgerber (DE-EPP) on the Motor vehicles: type-approval of hydrogen powered vehicles. The following amendments to the original Commission proposal were approved:

- L type vehicles are included in the Recital of the Regulation urging the Commission to develop a regulation for L type vehicles before 2010;

- Hydrogen and natural gas mixture vehicles are included in art 12 that requires the Commission to define these mixtures;
- The importance of establishing a hydrogen infrastructure has been included in the Recital.

The EHA has been invited by the Commission to contribute to the L type approval regulation and the definition of the mixtures.

Industrial installations falling under the ETS emit more CO₂ emissions in 2007.
2008-05-26

Overall CO₂ emissions from industries falling under the EU Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) rose by 0.68% in 2007. Figures released by the Commission, on May 23, based on information provided by the Member States on CO₂ emissions from installations falling under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) in the EU (excluding Malta, that has not yet submitted figures; Bulgaria and Romania, only joined the EU in 2007 and are not required to participate this year) in 2007 totalled 2,050 billion tonnes of CO₂, or 0.8% more than the 2,034 billion tonnes recorded in 2006. The figures must be adjusted for the entry into the scheme and the closure of installations since 2006, which led to a net addition of 581 installations. After adjustment, the overall increase for last year comes to 0.68%. Germany, Spain, Greece and the United Kingdom showed the poorest performances.

EU Parliament approved report on JTI proposal. 2008-05-20. With only 13 notes against the EU Parliament, approved the report of rapporteur Pia Locatelli on the Joint Undertaking for Fuel Cells and Hydrogen in one vote.

Workshop on Emission Trading System Phase 3 organized by International Emission Trading Association (IETA). 2008-05-06.

Henry Dennet, director IETA: referred to the four different types of auctions proposed; Paul Dawon, Citibank indicated that ETS participants need to be defined to avoid dominance of one sector or player.

Anne Theo Seinen DG ENVI: Amount of CO₂ being traded is rising from 262 Mt in 2005 to 1443 Mt in 2007. Art 10.5 of Commission ETS proposal of Jan 23, 2008: a regulation shall be adopted on administration and timing to ensure transparent and non discriminatory auctioning; SME's have full access. Auctions could happen on a multinational platform not only at national level; responsibility is on the Member States. A Stakeholder consultation is planned for early 2009. ETS Directive Adoption by late 2010. Ken Macken EPA Ireland: Irish auction system has been improved by increasing the amount per bidder and allowing two days instead of one.

EU Parliament rapporteur demands action on Geological Storage of carbon dioxide, 2008-05-05. Chris Davies (ALDE, GB) the main rapporteur in the EU Parliament on the Commission's proposal on the Geological Storage of carbon dioxide reported that industry and the research community collaborating in the Zero Emission Power Plant Platform agree that the Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) technologies will be commercially available by 2020. The Draft report of the rapporteur will be ready by June 4. Amendments can be submitted until July 8, 2008. If the pre combustion technology is used hydrogen can be produced as well. Among the 12 plants this technology has not been proposed so far. Key issues: 1. Authorisation procedures in place by 2015; 2.

Include CCS in ETS phase III; 3. Rapporteur proposed double credits for CCS in ETS to kick start developments; 4. Rapporteur proposes that all new power plants are equipped for CCS by 2020; 5. Call on French presidency to launch Action Plan on CCS including location of 12 demonstration plants as announced by the Council of the EU December 2006; 5.40% efficiency loss in post combustion plants in CCS is worst case scenario: demonstration projects should prove real efficiency.

The Commission has identified CCS in its Strategic Energy Technology Plan as one of the technologies that should be supported and is identifying new funding mechanisms to support 12 demonstration projects:

4. National News

Belgium

The Total Hydrogen station in Brussels is set to open June 2, 2008 in Brussels. The station is located in the south of Brussels on the highway Brussels-Paris. The Linde Group is supplying the hydrogen. The BMW Hydrogen 7 cars that are used by the Commission will refuel at the station.

France

The French Hydrogen Association is organising a seminar on Safety Aspects regarding the use of Hydrogen in collaboration with INERIS on June 26, 2008. The programme includes a presentation of the HyApproval hydrogen fuelling station handbook that the EHA is disseminating in collaboration with the EHA national member associations. More info at: www.afh2.org.

Germany

BMW Hydrogen 7 Convoy in Munich Germany 2008-05-29

Some 28 BMW Hydrogen 7 vehicles made their way through Munich the longest Hydrogen car convoy in history. The BMW Group has been using celebrities to test the cars; actor Will Ferrell, Jay Leno, opera star Placido Domingo and producer Stephen Gaghan are all testing the Hydrogen 7 cars..

Italy

At a big Energy Fair organised by the Region of Piemonte, that unveiled an extensive energy funding programme, Fiat presented its solar hydrogen prototype vehicle, Phylla. The Fiat Phylla is a solar and hydrogen fuel cell powered city car designed to use its photovoltaic panels for auxiliary power.

Netherlands

The Dutch government has announced the development of two CCS plants to be ready between 2015-2020 of which one will include the production of hydrogen.

Spain

Fourth International Hydrail Conference in Valencia, June 9, 2008. The conference will address advances in fuel cell locomotive technology and infrastructure developments. The hydrail conference is being hosted by the Appalachian State University Energy Center, NTDA Energía and the Hydrogen Economy Advancement

Team (HEAT). The countries of Austria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Korea, Spain, The Netherlands, United Kingdom and the United States will be participating.

UK

Commercialisation of hydrogen power must be addressed says UKHA 2008-05-30 (Aberdeen) The United Kingdom Hydrogen Association (UKHA) called for better commercialisation of low carbon source hydrogen energy and proposes UK showcase for green hydrogen at 2012 Olympic games at an international session on hydrogen and fuel cells at the eighth All-Energy Conference held at AECC, Aberdeen, Scotland on 21 and 22 May 2008. UKHA chairman, Alastair Rennie of AMEC, chaired the 'The race is on - commercialisation of fuel cell technology has begun in earnest' session, and challenged leading industrial companies and researchers to both get products to market and use their creativity to increase public awareness of hydrogen energy technologies. Birmingham opened its first hydrogen refuelling station recently and while Low Carbon Vehicle development is to receive a £90m financing from the UK government.

News form the secretariat

Celine van Lierde, office assistant of the secretariat for educational activities HYFED 6, that is supported by the ZSW Ulm, University of Iceland, Italian Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association and the EHA is the new secretary of HyRaMP, the European Regions and Municipalities Partnership for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells. Celine will assist in maintaining the database of regional activities, organising meetings and maintenance of the website. The HyRamP secretariat can be reached at:

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