



ECRN Inside News

2010

April Edition

Dear members and friends of the ECRN,

April has begun with the Commission's presentation of the draft regulation on auctioning rules on ETS to the member states. According to the initial time schedule, this proposal was expected since the end of last year. In this proposal, the Commission has backed down on plans to establish a centralised platform for auctioning CO₂ emission allowances from 2013 - allowing Germany, the UK and other large member states to organise national auctions.

REACH will be in the spotlight of ECHA's forth stakeholder day next month in Helsinki. The major topics on 19th May will be the feedback of ECHA concerning the registrations. We will report on this in one of our next issues.

At the Secretariat, the planning for our 8th Congress of the ECRN is

going forward. The 7th October is the fixed date this year, location will be in Brussels. Please mark this date already in your agenda.

We will inform about the status at the next PWG meeting.

Enjoy the reading- and see you soon at one of our next meetings!

Best wishes,

Michael Hack

Director of the ECRN Network Secretariat



ECRN Team in April 2010!

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News**

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ECRN Affairs

Overview on current ECRN activities

The next PWG meeting will take place in Saxony-Anhalt at the beginning of June and will be coordinated with a meeting of the ChemClust – project participants. The exact date and the meeting agenda will be communicated to the ECRN members as soon as possible. By that time, the ECRN will also publish its latest printed Newsletter, which will be distributed among chemical stakeholders in Brussels and in the regions. The ECRN Secretariat thanks already now all members who have so far contributed to this upcoming 11th ECRN Newsletter by providing articles on projects and initiatives which will be of interest to other chemical regions and stakeholders in the European Union. Facing the

highly positive fact that the number of ECRN members keeps growing, also the ECRN Flyer is currently being updated and will soon be presented to the members. On 1st June 2010, ECRN President Dr. Reiner Haseloff will speak at the Annual Congress of the European Association of Chemical Distributors FECC which this year takes place in ECRN member region Catalonia. Furthermore, preparations are ongoing for the national German HLG implementation conference in Berlin on 1st July 2010, about which Thomas Wobben informed ECRN members at the last PWG meeting. For any questions, suggestions or other input please get in touch with the ECRN Secretariat in Brussels.



Congress update – Save the date: 8th ECRN Congress on 7th October 2010, Brussels

The ECRN Secretariat kindly asks all ECRN members to save the date of this year's ECRN Congress in their agendas: The 8th Congress will take place in Brussels on 7th October 2010 and as already explained by Michael Hack at the ECRN internal meetings in February, the ECRN is very proud to announce that the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union will support this event, which will be organized in cooperation with ECRN member regions Wallonia and Flanders.

The current state of implementation of the recommendations of

the High Level Group and what remains to be done will be the thematic focus of this year's Congress, with a special view on the regional perspective. After a high-level opening panel two thematic panels will focus on the topics chemical logistics and energy and feedstock, since these two have been identified by the ECRN member regions as being of main interest in the discussion of the HLG results.

In order to send official invitations out in due time, in the coming weeks ECRN members will be asked as every year to...



The 8th ECRN Congress will take place in Brussels next October 2010 with the support of the Belgian Presidency of the Council



... provide the ECRN Secretariat with contact details to whom they would like invitations to be sent. In case of any questions, please contact the ECRN Secretariat.

Press Clippings

Commission weakens proposal on centralized carbon auction plans

As reported by Euractiv on the 8th April 2010, the EU Executive has weakened its plans from establishing a centralized platform for auctioning CO₂ emission allowances in 2013, enabling Germany, the UK and other emitters to organize auctions at a national level, in accordance with a draft proposal.

About 10,000 industrial plants in the EU have been asked to buy and sell permits to release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere since 2005. Such permits allow the holder either to use them to pollute under the terms of the law or trade or sell it for a profit. In order to attain the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2020, the EU leaders agreed in December 2009 to revise the EU's emissions trading scheme (EU ETS) for the period 2013-2020.

Under the revised EU ETS, electricity producers will have to buy 100% of their CO₂ emission permits at auction by 2020. During the second week of April, the European Commission presented

to the Member States a compromise draft regulation, which stipulates a joint platform for auctioning carbon permits to be set in the third phase of the EU's emission trading scheme, starting in 2013. However, the new proposal envisages the chance of EU Member States to opt out the European scheme in the first five years and permits them to auction their share of emission allowances until 2016 at national level. The option to opt out of the common platform represents a reversal of the Commission's previous position. The UK, Germany, Poland and Spain-which formed a bloc- prefer to control their own auctions and to have a system of linked national platforms. Most of the other EU Member States support a single process for auctioning, citing efficiency and equal process for all parties.

For more information:

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/eu-backs-down-centralised-co2-auctioning-news-422398>



The EU Commission weakens its plans from establishing a centralized platform for auctioning Co₂ emission allowances



Press Clippings

Emissions from industrial installations fell by 11% in 2009

In conformity with a Euractiv article (02/04/2010), the emissions rate from industrial installations under the EU's carbon trading scheme decreased by 11% in 2009, according to the Commission's figures on installation-level verified emissions and based on estimations for countries that are yet to report on their emissions.

Since 2005 the EU's emissions trading scheme (EU ETS) imposed 10,000 industrial plants to buy and sell issued-permits or emission allowances for the release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

The total industrial emissions amounted to 1.887 billion tonnes in 2009, corresponding to an 11% drop revealing that the economic crisis put down industrial production and power demand even more than in 2008, as stated by Euractiv. The sudden fall meant that emissions were in fact below the cap (limit on the amount of a pollutant that can be emitted) set un-

der the EU ETS, which is designed to help the EU to meet its climate change commitments.

Environmentalists have argued that the impact of the recession on emissions is a sign that the cap under the EU ETS is not strict enough since the surplus allowances (a company that cuts its pollution below its permitted level may sell it to another one) can be banked and used in the next trading phase starting in 2013 dragging down carbon prices for years afterwards. In fact during the first trading scheme there was an over-allocation of permits leading to the fall of carbon prices. As referred by Euractiv the global downturn and the accompanying drop in production have pushed down the prices.

More information can be found at: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-environment/eu-co2-emissions-drop-11-2009-news-403298>

Doubts arise after the Nord Stream pipeline's opening

On the 9th of April the new Energy Commissioner Günther Oettinger attended celebrations marking the launch of construction works for the Nord Stream gas pipeline at the Russian city of Vyborg on the 9th of April.

Apart from the Energy Commissioner, the Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and top-ranking officials participated in the cere-

mony. Commissioner Oettinger stated before his departure to Russia that cooperation with the Russian government is one of his priorities and that Russia is a strategic partner for Europe and that he hoped to improve their energy relations based on confidence and mutual trust, as mentioned by Ecofactory (12/04/2010). As stated by different news media there are certain discussions con-



Emissions fell in 2009 by 11% partly due to economic crisis



Energy Commissioner Günther Oettinger attended celebrations marking the Nord Stream pipeline's opening

Press Clippings

cerning the investment profitability of the Nord Stream pipeline and the consequence of its opening for the EU market. According to the Russian Information Agency rzd.partner's article (07/04/2010) the Nord Stream pipeline will pump 55 billion cubic meters of gas per year to Western Europe, bypassing transit countries such as Ukraine and Belarus. The head of the Nord Stream EU representation, Sebastian Saas affirmed that the construction of Nord Stream is an important milestone for the improvement of the security of supply for the whole EU, in accordance to Euractiv. Saas mentioned that the construction of an off-shore pipeline is indeed more expensive, but the maintenance is relatively cheaper, as reported by Euractiv (08/04/2010).

Agata Loskot-Strachota and Lukasz Antas state in an article from the EU Observer (30/03/2010) that there will be no difficulties in financing the second phase of the project despite the information surfacing about the final cost of the project having risen. Both authors stress that Gazprom has to ensure the profitability of Nord Stream and selling gas in a situa-

tion of lowered demand and a gas oversupply on the EU market. Additionally, questions are being raised as to what the Nord Stream's launch will mean for the European gas market and if its opening will contribute to a gradual change in the way Gazprom is doing business with Europe considering current market conditions and the ongoing processes of the European market liberalization and integration.

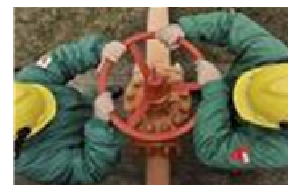
For further information you may visit the following websites:

EcoFactory: <http://www.ecofactory.com/news/crews-start-baltic-underwater-gas-pipeline-linking-russia-europe-041210>

Euractiv: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/energy/oettinger-attend-nord-stream-kick-event-russia-news-424326>

EU Observer: <http://euobserver.com/7/29795>

Russian Information Agency rzd.partner: <http://www.rzd-partner.com/news/2010/04/07/352671.html>



Doubts have arisen concerning the investment profitability of the Nord Stream Pipeline



New Energy Action Plan for 2010-2014

In reference to a Euractiv article (06/04/2010), the European Commission is expected to present the priorities of its 2010-2014 energy action plan during a meeting of energy ministers at the end of May. The Commission will provide information on the new plan pri-

orities in the energy sector for the next five years, according to the statement of Energy Commissioner Günther Oettinger's spokesperson. Presumably the plan will be adopted at the beginning of 2011. The 2010-2014 plan will represent the follow-up to the 2007-



At the end of May the European Commission will present the Energy Action Plan for 2010-2014

Press Clippings

2009 blueprint which launched a common European energy policy in 2007. The 2007-2009 plan focused on sustainability and the internal-market, whereas the new energy action plan will concentrate on security of supply and technology development.

The Spanish EU Presidency presented a report outlining the goals of the energy action plan for 2010-2014, based on the EU's Second

Strategic Energy Review at an informal meeting of energy ministers last February. Spain underlined that new plan would also include long-term priorities and a strategic analysis of the energy sector of 2030-2050.

More information is available on the following website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-environment/eu-co2-emissions-drop-11-2009-news-403298>



ECHA announces Guidance on exemptions from the obligation to register

According to a press release from ECHA (01/04/2010), the European Chemicals Agency has recently published Guidance for Annex V exemptions from the obligation to register. The main objective of the Guidance is to provide information on how different legal exemptions apply. Annex V describes the exemption conditions from the registration, downstream user and evaluation requirements.

The Guidance was announced after the consultation of the Partner Expert Group, the Forum, the Competent Authorities for REACH and CLP and after having received the advice of ECHA's Management Board.

Further information:

http://echa.europa.eu/doc/press/na_10_15_guidance_annex_v_20100401.pdf



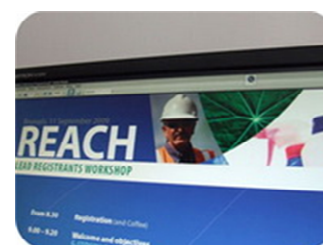
ECHA has published Guidance on Exemptions in order to provide information on how different legal exemptions apply

New Commissioners committed to turn REACH into a success

In accordance with a press release from the European Commission (25/03/2010), the newly-appointed Commissioners for Industry and Entrepreneurship, Antonio Tajani and Janez Potočnik for Environment visited the European Chemicals Agency on the 25th March in Helsinki, as they had confirmed in their Hearings in the

European Parliament in January 2010.

By together visiting ECHA the EU Commissioners intended to make progress towards the registration of chemicals and the management of substances of very high concern. The meeting with ECHA involved the discussion of the first...



New Commissioners present at the European Chemicals Agency's meeting on the 25th March in Helsinki

Press Clippings

...deadline (30 November 2010) for REACH registration of highest volume chemicals, particularly hazardous chemicals. Antonio Tajani underlined the need in "making it easier for enterprises, in particular SMEs to successfully register chemicals, for instance via SIEFs, which bring together businesses registering the same substance." Currently, a Directors Contact Group chaired by the Commission is monitoring industry's preparedness towards the deadline and implementing solutions. Jointly the Commissioners announced the agreement reached on setting an amendment to the criteria for the identification of persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic substances. The amended criteria

will be subject to transitional arrangements and will become mandatory 2 years following the entry into force of the agreed criteria.

After consulting ECHA, both Commissioners agreed on a roadmap for the inclusion of 106 substances of very high concern (SVHC) by 2012. Finally it was announced that the draft guidance on authorization will be provided by ECHA.

For more information:

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?refer-ence=IP/10/360&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>



The Commission visit to ECHA intended to promote progress towards the registration of chemicals and the management of substances of very high concern

ECHA multi-annual work programme

According to a press release from ECHA (12/03/2010), the European Chemicals Agency has opened a public consultation on its draft multi-annual work programme 2011-2013 (MAWP) which provides an overview of ECHA's activities for the next three years. The public consultation will be open until the 9th May 2010.

During 2011-2013 there will be important developments in the REACH and Classification, Labeling and Packaging (CLP) Regulations. These are: the acceleration of ECHA's scientific evaluation activities, the start of substance evaluation performed by Member States and coordinated by ECHA, the establishment of a classification and labeling inventory for substances, the second registra-

tions deadline with its updates of guidance, tools and manuals and the first applications under the new authorization procedure for substances of very high concern.

Apart from the multi-annual work programme, there are also annual programmes for 2010 (available on ECHA website) and for 2011 which will be published in October 2010. ECHA has underlined that comments received by the 9th of May 2010 will be taken into account. The final version of MAWP will be finalized at the Management Board's final meeting on the 22nd and 23rd of June 2010.

More information can be found at:

http://echa.europa.eu/doc/press/pr_10_04_maw_2011_2013_2010_0312.pdf



ECHA has recently opened a public consultation on its draft multi-annual work programme 2011-2013

Other Info

Commission unveils 2010 Work Programme

The 2010 Work Programme of the new Commission sets out its ambition and commitments for 2010 and beyond. According to the President of the EU executive, José Manuel Barroso, the Work Programme adopted on the 31st March 2010 "is an ambitious but realistic agenda for results".

The European Commission intends to take action along four main strands: tackling the crisis and sustaining Europe's social market economy; building a citizens' agenda which puts people at the heart of European action; developing an ambitious and coherent external agenda with global outreach and modernizing EU instruments and ways of working.

In order to face the economic and financial situation, the Commission has established strategic responses to strengthen economic surveillance and improve governance within the euro area; to help public finances and to ensure stable financial markets. The Commission is planning to take actions in the coming months to flesh out the Europe 2020 flagship initiatives. At the same time, it will be working to ensure that the tools at its disposal are geared up to assist the work of implementing the 2020 vision.

As part of its citizens' agenda, the issue of policy coherence will be analyzed in depth and a public consultation will be carried out on the common legal principles and issues which should guide future proposals for redress in EU legislation. As stated by the President Barroso, the Commission has agreed a list of 34 strategic priorities to be implemented before the end of the year. It has also agreed another 280 major proposals under consideration during 2010 and beyond.

In the Work Programme the EU's importance as a political, economic and trading power and the role that it plays on the international arena is stressed. The Lisbon Treaty gives new tools to better project interests worldwide.

The Work Programme serves to highlight new initiatives, but a key focus of the Commission's work in 2010 will be about making effective use of existing policy instruments and paving the way for their modernization.

The Work Programme for 2010 can be accessed on the European Commission website:

http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/programmes/index_en.htm



The European Commission has adopted the 2010 Work Programme in order to face the current challenges



Other Info

Reminder: Leaflet on REACH and CLP deadlines in 2010

The European Commission in collaboration with the European Chemical Agency (ECHA) has released a leaflet outlining the key requirements for meeting the SIEFS deadline along with the Classification, Labeling and Packaging (CLP) requirements. The leaflet is entitled "REACH and CLP: A key year for Chemicals Registration and Notification-Act Now" and is directed to companies, particularly small and medium sized enterprises.

Concerning REACH requirements, SIEFS bring together businesses registering the same substance so they can share data on them. The leaflet restates the importance of companies to form these SIEFS and to register by 30 November 2010 their hazardous substances, above 1 tonne per year, for substances very toxic to the aquatic environment above 100 tonnes per year, or substances manufactured or imported above 1 000 tonnes per year.

In order to register companies should submit together with other

manufacturers or importers a dossier to ECHA with a common part prepared and additionally an individual part containing specific information of the company. The registration dossier is submitted in a software called REACH-IT (who permits to know who else is in the same SIEF and other companies that have pre-registered the same substance).

Due to new rules in the CLP regulation substances need to be reclassified by 1 December 2010 and mixtures by 1 June 2015. Manufacturers and importers need to notify ECHA by 3 January 2014 on the classification of substances placed on the market that are subject to REACH Registration, classified as hazardous and in mixtures.

In order to have access to the leaflet you may follow the link below:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/reach/pdf/SIEF%20leaflet.pdf>



The EU Commission has released jointly with ECHA a leaflet outlining the requirements for meeting the SIEFS and CLP deadlines



Sign up now!

Selection of Funding Calls

Below you will find for your information some recent calls for European Funding programs of potential relevance for the ECRN members. It is a selection and makes no claim to be complete. These are some calls and programs which could be worth to be looked at in more detail, depending on regional priorities. For more details on the different programs, please refer to the web-addresses given.

The calls for applications for 2010 for the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) are now open and can be found by following the respective link in the table below. The new work programme for the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP) can be accessed now as well. In case of any suggestions or questions, please feel free to contact the ECRN Secretariat.

Call Identifier	Call Title	Funding Scheme	Eligibility Conditions	Deadline	Website
SP1-JTI-CS-2010-01	Clean Sky JTI 2010-01	FP7— Cooperation (Joint Technology Initiative)	Applicable under certain conditions to non-profit bodies, secondary and higher education establishments, research organisations and SMEs	27 April 2010	http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?function=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=302
	Intelligent Energy Europe	Sub-programme of CIP (Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme)	All participants are private or public legal entities.	24 June 2010	http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/call_for_proposals/call_library_en.htm
SP1-JTI-CS-2010-02	Clean Sky JTI 2010-02	FP7— Cooperation (Joint Technology Initiative)	Only legal entities established in a Member State or in a country associated to the Seventh Framework Programme	30 June 2010	http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?function=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&call_id=306#infopack
	Eco-innovation Projects	Sub-programme of CIP (Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme)	All legal persons that are based in eligible countries but the priority will be given to Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs). Clusters of applicants and projects which demonstrate a European added value and have a high potential for market replication are strongly encouraged.	9 September 2010	http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecoinnovation/application_en.htm
	Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP)	Erasmus Grundtvig Comenius Leonardo da Vinci	The Lifelong Learning Programme applies to all types and levels of education and vocational education and training, for details please check the different sub-programmes of interest	Deadlines differ for every sub-programme.	http://ec.europa.eu/education/llp/doc848_en.htm
	Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP)	Sub-programme of CIP (Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme)	See newly available work programme for 2010		http://ec.europa.eu/cip/documents/work-programmes/index_en.htm

Eco-Innovation

Our current juncture has been widely permeated by the debate on the climate change pressure. For that reason, the promotion of investments in eco-innovative technologies is running high on the EU's agenda, since eco-innovation (EI) is perceived as the road to sustainable development.

As reported by the pan-European platform-Europe Innova, EI has been defined as "any innovation that benefits the environment – embracing technological innovation, process innovation and business innovation". (see Michal Miedzinski and Technopolis Group, Policy Brief "Eco-innovation", Europe Innova 2009) The Directorate-General Environment of the European Commission has stated that EI means all forms of innovation activities resulting in or aimed at significantly improving environmental protection. Eco-innovation includes new production processes, new products or services, and new management and business methods, the use or implementation of which is likely to prevent or substantially reduce the risks to the environment, pollution and any other negative impact of the use of resources throughout the lifecycle of related activities. EIs are building blocks for sustainable development. They add market value and also increase environmental and social acceptance.

Examples include e.g. technology flue gas cleaning, wind turbines, water treatment, enzymes for animal feed and washing powder,

biofuel production and energy-efficient pumps.

The European Commission has already started with its first steps to promote eco-innovation across different groups, ranging from stakeholders to the general public. In 2004, the European Technologies Action Plan (ETAP) was adopted. The objective of this ambitious plan is to promote environmental technologies to improve the environment and European competitiveness. It complements the Environment Directorate-General's regulatory approaches and directly addresses the three dimensions of the Lisbon strategy: growth, jobs and the environment.

The European Commission currently runs different funding programmes to finance eco-innovation activities. One is the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP). It aims at boosting the competitiveness and productivity of European businesses, and to promote innovation activities by financing and delivering business support services. Main target group are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The programme runs until 2013. The CIP programme is divided into three operational programmes:

-Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP)

-Information Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme (ICT PSP) ...

WHEN BUSINESS MEETS THE ENVIRONMENT



Today Eco-innovation is considered the road to sustainable development



ECRN Special

...

-Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE)

Eco-innovation is important under the EIP since its main objectives are to support SMEs regarding start-up, cooperation and all kind of innovation. EIP consists of several action fields, one of which is Eco-innovation/EIP. Eco-Innovation/EIP programme supports the application and further market uptake of eco-innovative products and services with high potential in Europe, and aims at helping to overcome those critical barriers that still hamper their commercial success. Thus it has the potential to be a major instrument to speed-up eco-innovation within the EU. An evaluation report of this programme was completed in February 2009. Under the Eco-Innovation/EIP programme, the next call is foreseen for April 2010- "Eco-innovation Projects in Europe: Achieving competitive growth and environmental sustainability is possible." Around € 30 million will be available. The promotion of Eco-Innovation through the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme aims at contrib-

uting to the implementation of the ETAP.

Another relevant funding programme concerning eco-innovation is the Seventh Framework Programme for research and technological development (FP7). The latter is the largest research programme in the world, running from 2007 to 2013. Under the 7th Programme it is estimated that up to 30% of the € 32 billion budget will address environmental technologies.

Websites consulted:

DG Environment:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eco-innovation/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/etap/policy/actionplan_en.html

DG Enterprise and Industry

http://ec.europa.eu/cip/eip/eco-innovation/index_en.htm

Danish Ministry of Environment

http://www.ecoinnovation.dk/English/EU_Actions/Environmental_technology_EU_definition/



The EU Commission runs different funding programmes directed to finance eco-innovation activities



**European
Chemical Regions
Network**



ECRN Inside News

April 2010

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