

## EU biogas and biomethane inventory of regulatory framework



Number of regulatory act	COM (2012) 271
Name of regulatory act	Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Renewable Energy: a major player in the European energy market
Link	<a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2012:0271:FIN">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2012:0271:FIN</a>
Date of Publication	06/06/2012
Date of Implementation	n.a
Purpose	This Communication explains how renewable energy is being integrated into the single market. It gives some guidance on the current framework until 2020 and outlines possible policy options for beyond 2020, to ensure continuity and stability, enabling Europe's renewable energy production to continue to grow to 2030 and beyond.
Relevance for the biomethane sector	The Communication is not a legally binding legislative document and it does not address biomethane as such. However, this Communication refers to future legislative proposals which will affect biomethane sector.
Scope	Renewable energy, 2020 targets, sustainability criteria and future proposals by the EC in these fields.
Targets	
Sustainability Criteria	<b>Part 7</b> underlined the importance of sustainability criteria: "significant further use of biomass requires additional measures to ensure its sustainability. For this reason the Commission will evaluate the effectiveness of current sustainability criteria by 2014 as required by the Renewable Energy Directive. In addition, the Commission will shortly produce reports and proposals to further develop the EU's sustainability framework."
Mass-balance	
Support Systems (subsidies, feed in tariffs, etc)	<b>Part 2</b> states "In order to reach the 20% targets, MS may operate support schemes and apply measures of cooperation (Articles 3, 6 to 9 [of RED]). Building on the national renewable energy action plans, the support systems put in place by MS and the continuous investment in R&D, Europe's renewable energy sector has developed much faster than foreseen at the time of drafting the RED." It is also observed that "Complicated authorisation procedures, the lack of one-stop-shops, the creation of registration procedures, [long] planning processes and fear of retroactive changes to support schemes, increase project risk" that "result in a very high cost of capital, raising the cost of renewable energy projects and undermining their competitiveness". It is also admitted that "a risk of impairing the single market must be avoided and more action is also needed to ensure consistency of approach across Member States, to remove distortions and develop renewable energy resources cost effectively. To encourage this, the Commission plans to prepare guidance on best practice and experience gained in these matters and, if needed, on support scheme reform, to help ensure greater consistency in national approaches and avoid fragmentation of the internal market. <...> Principles for support schemes need to be established that minimise market distortions, avoid over compensation and ensure consistency across Member States. These will address transparency, predictability and the need to stimulate innovation".
Non-discriminatory access to the grid	
Transport sector	
Waste regulation	
Emission Regulation	