

European Climate Law – A clear signal to market operators

UPEI, Europe's Independent Fuel Suppliers, welcomes the European Commission proposal for the European Climate Law, which sends a clear signal to market operators. Efforts should now focus on the establishment of an enabling policy framework.

“A clear and credible pathway for scaling up carbon neutral fuels production and deployment in our economy would further support the current efforts of independent fuel suppliers” underlines Cécile Nourigat, UPEI Secretary General. “It would also stimulate innovation and investments in low carbon fuels, increase public support for climate ambitions and secure jobs for Europeans”.

UPEI is fully committed to contributing to achieving carbon neutrality through the supply of carbon-neutral fuels by 2050. This ambition has to be sustained by the regulatory consistency that businesses need to successfully deliver the transition to sustainable supply chains, mobilising funding for solutions that reflect changing market realities. Such regulatory framework needs to promote all forms of low carbon and carbon-neutral solutions, to reach carbon neutrality efficiently.

In this regard, UPEI reiterates the need for a life-cycle approach to evaluate the carbon and environmental footprint of all solutions and emissions from all applications, and to consider “system efficiency” to factor in the cost efficiency of renewable fuels (“drop-in” benefit) versus standalone technologies requiring dedicated infrastructure and appliances.

At last, UPEI recalls that while it is important to set long-term objectives, Europe should not dismiss solutions that are already available, cost-effective, commercially viable and that positively contribute to the energy transition, such as gaseous fuels and sustainable renewable fuels.

Read more in [UPEI vision](#).

UPEI represents nearly 2,000 European importers and wholesale/retail distributors of energy for the transport and heating sectors, supplying Europe's customers independently of the major energy producers. They are the interface between producers and consumers, using their own infrastructure and flexibility to supply existing demand for conventional and renewable liquid fuels, as well as non-liquid alternatives as part of the energy transition. They cover more than a third of Europe's current demand. The organisation brings together national associations and suppliers across Europe.

Independent fuel suppliers bring competition to Europe's energy market and are able to respond rapidly to changes affecting supply, contributing to security on a local, national and regional level. They have developed and maintain a comprehensive infrastructure for the sourcing, storage and distribution of transport and heating fuels, with a commitment to delivering a high quality service to all consumers, including those in remote areas.

Since 1962 UPEI has been advocating for a level playing field and fair competition to ensure an affordable, sustainable and secure energy supply for Europe's consumers. Today, in the context of the transition to a low carbon economy, UPEI and its members are also addressing the challenges of adapting the product range and meeting consumer demand through market oriented solutions.

With its strong track record in pioneering the supply of renewable fuels in the EU, UPEI's members remain committed to delivering and embracing new, cost effective solutions which further promote energy efficiency and reduce pollutants and emissions.