### Carbon and sustainability reporting in the UK and lessons for EU policy

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#### Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership

Accelerating a sustainable shift to low carbon vehicles and fuels in the UK

Stimulating opportunities for UK businesses





## There are good and bad biofuels – assurance schemes can distinguish between



### % WTW GHG savings compared to petrol or diesel



#### LOWC<sup>VP</sup> low carbon vehicle partnership

**Derived from Concawe 2006** 

#### UK biofuel policy is designed to deliver GHG savings sustainably

- Renewable Transport Fuels Obligation (RTFO) commences April 2008, requires suppliers of transport fuels to provide renewable transport fuels:
  - 2.5% (vol)3.75%

2008/9 2009/10

5%

2010/11

#### Target can be met by:

- Selling a given amount of renewable transport fuel each year (for which they will receive certificates); or
- Purchasing certificates from another company; or
- Paying a "buy-out" price of 22c/l (duty differential of 45c/l retained)
- From start reporting of the carbon and sustainability (C&S) of biofuels
- From 2010 proposed to link issuing of Renewable Transport Fuel Certificates to the carbon intensity of the biofuel
- From 2011 proposed to issue certificates only to sustainable biofuels





# UK scheme is focussed on direct effects that can be managed by companies



#### *RTF Certificates issued on receipt of an appropriate Carbon & Sustainability report*

- Reports must be supplied on all fuels for which RTFCs are claimed
- Monthly reports confidential annual aggregate reports published
- Comparative reports of company performance produced by the RFA
- No exclusions of feedstock/fuel & "Not known" reports permissible
- Independent verification of reports & claims
- Annual targets for company performance (initially no penalty for failing to achieve)

Company targets	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Percentage of feedstock meeting the 'Qualifying' Environmental Standard	30%	50%	80%
GHG saving	40%	45%	50%
Data provision	50%	70%	90%

#### Carbon intensity calculated on a well to wheel basis; sustainability reports focused on feedstock production





#### Illustrative monthly report

General	Information			Sus	tainability l	nformation		Carbon Ir	nformation
Fuel type	Quantity of fuel (litres)	Biofuel Feedstock	Feedstock Origin	Standard	Env Level	Social Level	Land use on 30 Nov 2005	Carbon intensity incl LUC g CO <sub>2</sub> e/ MJ	Accuracy level
Bioethanol	250,000	Wheat	UK	LEAF	QS	-	Cropland	61	2
Bioethanol	100,000	Wheat	France	GlobalGAP	-	-	Grassland	122	2
Bioethanol	250,000	Sugar beet	UK	ACCS	QS	-	Cropland	35	5
Bioethanol	1,000,000	Sugar cane	Brazil	Meta-Standard	RTFO	RTFO	Cropland		2
Bioethanol	500,000	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	-	-	Unknown	61	
Biodiesel	1,000,000	Oilseed rape	UK	ACCS	RTFO	RTFO	Cropland	55	2
Biodiesel	250,000	Oilseed rape	Unknown	Unknown	-	-	Unknown	55	2
Biodiesel	500,000	Palm oil	Malaysia	RSPO	QS	QS	Cropland	45	2
Biodiesel	500,000	Soy	Argentina	Basel	QS	QS	Grassland	177	2
Biodiesel	250,000	UCO	UK	By-product	QS	QS	By-product	13	2
Biomethane	150,000	Dry manure	UK	By-product	QS	QS	By-product	20	



#### Sustainability reporting based on existing voluntary standards that have been benchmarked against a Meta-Standard

	Environmental standard	Social standard	
<b>RTFO Meta Standard</b>	Full audit against criteria <i>OR</i>	Full audit against criteria <i>OR</i>	
	A standard + supplementary checks	A standard + supplementary checks	
Qualifying Standard	ACCS FSC Basel RSPO LEAF SAN/RA A benchmarked standard + supplementary checks	Basel RSPO SAN/RA A benchmarked standard + supplementary checks	
Benchmarked Standard	Genesis crops module; Scottish Quality Cereals Qualitat und Sicherheit; Fedioil; SA8000; GlobalGAP; IFOAM; ProTerra		



Counts towards data capture target AND environmental performance

Counts towards data capture target only

### Flexible calculation method uses both tiered default values and real data

Conservative defaults

Somewhat Conservative defaults

Typical defaults

0. Fuel defaults e.g. Ethanol only

**1. Feedstock defaults** e.g. Ethanol – Wheat

2. Feedstock & Origin defaults e.g. Ethanol – UK, Wheat

**3. Chain defaults** e.g. Ethanol, - UK, Wheat, CHP

4. Secondary defaults e.g User defined default data

5. Chain calculation e.g Chain default + some actual data

Increasing information availability

> Increased accuracy of calculation

EU proposals allow oilseed rape and sugar beet to make the cut but palm and wheat need to prove their processes give better results



# Rewarding fuels based upon their carbon intensity could incentivise advanced technology



# Key lessons for design of EU sustainability regulations

- Targets need to recognise indirect effects
- WTO rules may constrain proposals
- Demonstrating compliance with mandatory criteria is a key challenge
- Incentives should encourage supply of low carbon intensity fuels not specific technologies
- Book and claim schemes can be more robust than mass-balance schemes and should be encouraged
- Build upon existing schemes and encourage participation in these









### Indirect effects on land use and food prices are emerging as a key concern and influence on future policy & targets



LowC<sup>VP</sup> low carbon vehicle partnership



# Sustainability criteria for biofuels may be constrained by trade rules

- □ Key trade issues are whether:
  - Biofuels "like-product"
  - Biofuels are agricultural products, environmental products or industrial goods!
  - The scheme objectives and design are appropriate



- To maximise effectiveness and minimise the risk of successful challenge criteria should:
  - Ideally be based upon Internationally agreed standards
  - Also apply to indigenous producers
  - Allow flexibility in how to comply
  - Be based on robust science
  - In addition:
    - There should bi and multilateral discussions
    - Time should be allowed for adaptation
    - Appropriate due process should be followed

### *If WTO rules prevent legislating on all criteria then reporting on the wider issues should be required*

Mandatory	<b>Reporting Obligation</b>	
Conservation of carbon	Soil conservation	
	Sustainable water	
Conservation of biodiversity	use	
	Air quality	
Minimum GHG		
saving	Land rights	
	Workers rights	



There are plenty of schemes with criteria and/or GHG methodologies – the focus should be on harmonisation and implementation



#### Key messages

- UK carbon and sustainability reporting scheme commences 14<sup>th</sup> April as part of Obligation
- □ Future UK policy (subject to EU agreement) intended to:
  - Link GHG savings to reward of biofuels (2010)
  - Introduce mandatory criteria
- □ Key lessons for EU policy are:
  - To link incentives for biofuels to carbon intensity in a technology neutral manner – as proposed in the Fuel Quality Directive
  - Design rigorous enforcement mechanisms built upon existing schemes
  - Recognise and address WTO constraints
  - Broaden the scope of addressed issues through complementary mandatory reporting
- Future targets should be based on GHG-savings and take account of indirect effects



### **Any Questions?**

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