

Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum Keynote Seminar: Biofuels

Date: 21st July 2010

Venue: The Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG

Agenda subject to change

- 8.45 - 9.00 Registration
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Lord Oxburgh, Chairman, Falck Renewables
- 9.05 - 9.30 **Biofuels: 21st century progress**
Themes: What are the current levels of biofuels use? What is the split in sources from which biofuels are produced? To what extent has the production and use of biofuels contributed to achieving greater levels of energy security? How sustainable is the production and use of biofuels? What is the UK's current policy position on biofuels? How is this policy position likely to develop? How will this fit within the international context?
Dr Jeremy Woods, Lecturer in Bioenergy, Imperial College London
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 10.10 **Biofuels under pressure: the alternative options for cleaner fuels and energy security**
Themes: What impact has European Union research, which has found that in some instances biofuels damage the environment, had on the reputation of the industry? How robust is the research? How do biofuels compare to the alternative options of solar and electric power in the context of achieving greater sustainability in energy? What role can hydrogen play in the 21st century energy mix? Should investment in 21st century energy security be directed away from the production and consumption of biofuels?
Dr Constantinos Kerigan-Kyrou, Research Associate, Dartmouth Strategic Studies Group, University of Plymouth
Dr Douglas Parr, Chief Scientist, Greenpeace
Paul Thompson, Head of Policy, Renewable Energy Association
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.10 - 10.50 **Developments in the food versus fuel debate**
Themes: What are the latest developments in the food versus fuel debate? What levels of farmland crop production are diverted for use in the production of biofuels? Is this set to rise? What impact will this have on global food supply and prices?
Richard Stark, Head of Development, British Sugar
Ruth Digby, Crops Adviser, National Farmers Union
Dominic Dyer, Chief Executive, Crop Protection Association
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.50 - 10.55 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Lord Oxburgh, Chairman, Falck Renewables
- 10.55 - 11.25 Coffee
- 11.25 - 11.30 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Willie Bain MP, Shadow Minister for Transport
- 11.30 - 12.30 **Innovation and the next generation of biofuels**
Themes: What steps are required to create greater capacity in the production of biofuels? How can greater efficiency in the supply process be fostered? What technological innovations are planned for future biofuels production? What level of investment will such innovations require? What benefits in going forward do synfuels and biobutanol fuels provide?
Ian O'Gara, European Biofuels Lead, Accenture
Professor Mark Harvey, Director, Centre for Research in Economic Sociology and Innovation, Department of Sociology, University of Essex
Lars Christian Hansen, President, Europe, Novozymes
Dr Ausilio Bauen, Director, E4tech
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 - 12.55 **The view from the Renewable Fuels Agency**
Nick Goodall, Chief Executive Officer, Renewable Fuels Agency
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks**
Willie Bain MP, Shadow Minister for Transport
Michael Ryan, Senior Producer, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum