



Voting recommendations

ENVI vote 16 May 2022 on the proposal for a revision of the renewable energy directive

On the 16th of May, the Environment Committee of the European Parliament will vote on its opinion on the revision of the Renewable Energy Directive (amending directive (EU) 2018/2001, regulation (EU) 2018/1999 and directive 98/70/EC, and repealing Council directive (EU) 2015/652).

EuroNatur calls on Members of the European Parliament to vote for ambitious amendments that can ensure that the EU will achieve net-zero emissions and prioritise renewable energies that can align with nature such as solar, wind and geothermal.

In particular, we call on you to consider these recommendations:

- **Support real green energy to achieve 100% renewable energy.** To achieve the climate objectives while meeting commitments on biodiversity, energy from forest biomass and hydropower that do not fulfil their sustainability criteria should not be accounted. Furthermore, reference to 'recycled carbon fuels' should be deleted from the RED as these are fossil energy sources and do not contribute in achieving 100%renewable energy. **Support AMs CA 1, CA 2, 177, 184, 277, 292 - 295, 308 - 310, 354 - 356, 373, 811, 813, 815, 817. Reject AMs CA8, 14, 189, 21, 278 - 283, 297 - 303, 317, 326 - 335, 440, 548, 549, 551, 814, 816, 820, 825, 826.**
- **Maximise production of energy from already built infrastructure and improve security and stability of the EU's energy system.** Promote national long-term renovation strategies that increase deployment of solar panels, heat pumps and electrification of buildings. Strongly encourage the participation of active consumers and renewable energy communities (RECs) in electricity markets by providing the right incentives and removing any form of discrimination towards them to create a level playing field vis-a-vis other actors. Empower consumers' rights by fostering more transparency and flexibility in smarter grids with a greater capacity to connect solar and wind energy. **Support AMs 22, 369, 370, 382, 394, 409 - 412, 415, 418, 437, 444, 445, 447. Reject AMs 24, 407**

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- **Plan renewable energy in a way that they will have low ecological impact.** Ensure that all Member States account for the biodiversity objectives in their national energy and climate plans - in particular by identifying low-risk ecological areas that align with EU environmental legislation. [Support AMs CA 4, 244, 245, 246, 247, 369, 370, 382, 402, 778, 779.](#)
- **Ensure sustainability criteria of biomass is not degrading forests.** Greater investment should be made in maintaining and restoring natural carbon stocks, including by strictly protecting primary and old-growth forests, wetlands, peatlands, seagrasses, as well as banning the practice of clear-cutting. Subsidies for the burning of biomass should be removed. The waste hierarchy, the cascading principle and the conservation status of species and habitats must be considered within the criteria. [Support AMs CA 3, CA 9, 34, 266, 267, 270, 271, 272, 274, 590, 659, 724 - 727, 733, 740, 747, 751, 752, 759, 761 - 763, 765, 766.](#) [Reject AMs CA 9A, 9 - 11, 15, 20, 29-33, 259 - 265, 269, 346 - 353, 721 - 723, 728 - 732, 741 - 746, 754 - 758, 760.](#)
- **Introduce sustainability criteria of hydropower to improve freshwater ecosystems.** Introduce a new sustainability criterion that limits the construction of new hydropower which have scientifically been proven to destroy freshwater ecosystems and lead species to the verge of extinction. [Support AMs 113, 374, 823, 824, 827.](#)
- **Ensure that only sustainable renewable energy sources are used in the transport sector.** Phase out first-generation biofuels, bioliquids and biogas fuels produced from crops and woody biomass. This is indispensable to prevent biodiversity loss, which is negatively impacted by the indirect land use change associated with the production of certain biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels, and to avoid creating incentives competing with food production and carbon removal targets. [Support AMs CA 6, CA 7, CA 8b, CA 19, 529, 530, 575, 577, 606, 607, 609.](#) [Reject AMs CA 7a, CA 8, 359, 371, 527, 531, 571 - 573, 576, 580, 583, 584.](#)