



## Member States reject complex Lithuanian proposal on Indirect Land Use Change file

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**Brussels, Today - Today European Energy Ministers rejected a political agreement on the Council position on the Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC) proposal of the European Commission. The European Renewable Ethanol Association (ePURE) welcomes the outcome as policy makers can now have a closer look at the emerging science around ILUC and mitigation practices and put in place a stable and ambitious policy framework for renewables in 2030.**

Seven Member States formed a blocking minority to reject the proposed Lithuanian Presidency's compromise package on ILUC, imposing a cap of 7% on conventional biofuels, allowing for a range of accountancy tricks for Member States to meet the RED targets, reporting of disputed ILUC emissions and no concrete measures to stimulate the production of advanced biofuels.

Rob Vierhout, Secretary general of ePURE comments: "We welcome the good sense some Member States had to oppose this political compromise. The rejection reflects the complexity of the issues and divergent views around ILUC. Too many parameters formed a proposal that would have been almost impossible to implement. But most of all, the lack of incentives for best performing biofuels meant that Member States could hardly fulfill the targets as set out in the Renewable Energy Directive".

Based on the existing biofuels policy framework, the European renewable ethanol industry invested Euro 8 billion and maintains 70,000 jobs. Today, renewable ethanol is the only low carbon and renewable energy to substitute petrol and to secure this, and to further incentivize advanced renewable ethanol, a clear and stable policy environment is needed. But most of all, investor confidence, badly shaken by the Commission proposal a year ago, needs to be restored.

"Moving forward, we believe it is now important to focus the debate around putting in place a stable and ambitious 2030 energy and environment policy framework", says Rob Vierhout.

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ePURE represents the interests of European renewable ethanol producers to the European Institutions, industry stakeholders, the media, academia and the general public. Based in Brussels, ePURE represents 55 member companies throughout 18 member states, accounting for 95% of the installed renewable ethanol production capacity in Europe. The organization, established in 2010, promotes the beneficial uses of ethanol throughout Europe.