



PRESS RELEASE

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ePURE welcomes the European Parliament's rejection of the Commission Delegated Act to repeal the EU ethanol balance and import license

Brussels, Today - With a clear majority the European Parliament adopted today a Motion for a Resolution objecting the Commission Delegated Act which repealed the annual EU ethanol balance and the need to issue import licenses for ethanol imports. The European renewable ethanol industry association (ePURE) welcomes the vote as it considers the balance and import licenses to be important tools that contribute to transparency and oversight of the EU ethanol market.

Today's vote prevents the Commission Delegated Act of February 2015 from entering into force. The European Commission had proposed to stop publishing the annual EU ethanol balance and repealed the obligation to present a licence for imports of ethanol.

ePURE has continuously advocated for maintaining the current system, as the ethanol balance is the only official European wide authoritative source of information about the EU ethanol market. As such, it is not least an important source of information for producers, but also for policy makers to guide the development of sound and fact based policies. Import licenses are relevant as they enable effective and timely monitoring of imports into the EU. This is particularly relevant in the case of ethanol, where past experience has clearly shown the vulnerability of ethanol to unfair trade practices.

"Today's vote is an important signal from the European Parliament that the EU ethanol sector will not be abandoned by policy makers. The fact that almost three quarter of MEPs supported the objection, shows that they recognise that renewable ethanol production in the EU has an important economic and social role for the economy of certain regions of the Community", said Robert Wright, Secretary-General of ePURE.

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About ePURE

The European renewable ethanol association (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 58 member companies, with production plants in 16 member states, accounting for 90% of the installed renewable ethanol capacity in Europe. The organisation, established in 2010, promotes the beneficial uses of ethanol throughout Europe.