



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

2012/2259(INI)

18.12.2012

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on current challenges and opportunities for renewable energy on the European
internal energy market
(2012/2259(INI))

Rapporteur: Spyros Danellis

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Underlines the importance that renewable energy should have in Europe's energy supply and supports the promotion of renewables as part of the EU's climate-change strategy;
2. Points to the importance of gradually achieving a European energy market for renewables that would allow alternative energy sources to become competitive on a sustainable basis;
3. Stresses, however, the challenges involved in promoting and achieving sustainable use of renewables in line with climate, renewable energy and biodiversity targets, as well as with site-specific environmental requirements;
4. Emphasises that energy policy should not promote the production and use of renewable resources to the detriment of environmental sustainability;
5. Calls on the EU to guarantee that the promotion of renewable resources in the production and use of energy will not jeopardise food security or high-quality sustainable food production;
6. Acknowledges that a great challenge facing agriculture is to identify effective mitigation measures that do not have a negative impact on agricultural productivity, or that even have a positive one;
7. Calls on the EU to ensure that energy measures to develop alternative fuels are not directly or indirectly incompatible with World Trade Organisation (WTO) commitments and do not expose the EU to acts of retaliation;
8. Stresses that a sound renewable energy strategy should regard reduction of waste and energy saving as fundamental objectives, in addition to that of making better use of renewable energy resources;
9. Is aware of the role that innovation provisions under the CAP reform proposals for Rural Development should play in researching and disseminating techniques for sustainable production and uses for renewable energy and waste;
10. Acknowledges the importance of promoting and encouraging the development of on-farm sources of alternative energy, especially on a small scale, and of disseminating the relevant methods to farmers and consumers alike;
11. Emphasises the contribution that cooperation among farmers might make to a successful outcome for the policy for promoting renewable resources.