

**Question for written answer E-004595/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Albert Deß (PPE) and Peter Jahr (PPE)**

Subject: Checking the greenhouse gas performance calculations for biofuels

Directive 98/70/EC requires Member States to reduce the level of greenhouse gases emitted by fossil fuels. The use of biofuels is important in this regard. The practical transposition of the Directive in Germany subsidises the use of biofuels that lead to high greenhouse gas savings. Biofuels with higher greenhouse gas savings therefore achieve higher market prices for the producers and reduce the quantity required by those subject to quotas. A substantial incentive therefore exists to improve the greenhouse gas performance of the biofuels used. The calculation of greenhouse gas performance is governed by Directive 98/70/EC and Directive 2009/28/EC.

One way to significantly improve the greenhouse gas performance of a biofuel upon consumption is carbon capture and replacement (CCR). In this regard, both Directives state that captured CO<sub>2</sub> must be “used to replace fossil-derived CO<sub>2</sub> used in commercial products and services.” At present the systemic principles of voluntary certification schemes approved by the Commission contain no rules on the employment of CCR in certification practice, nor are there any rules prescribed by the Commission itself.

1. Is the Commission aware of the use of CCR and its inclusion in greenhouse gas performance calculations for biofuels, and how is it ensured that captured CO<sub>2</sub> does in fact replace CO<sub>2</sub> from fossil fuel sources?
2. What rules does the Commission intend to introduce to ensure that the CCR-derived greenhouse gas savings included in the calculations are actually achieved?