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Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

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PE 400.306v01-00

AMENDMENTS 1-21

Draft report

(PE398.436v01-00)

Csaba Sándor Tabajdi

Sustainable Agriculture and Biogas: a need for review of EU-legislation
(2007/2107(INI))

Motion for a resolution

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 1

Recital D

- D. whereas there is a large potential for a significant rise in biogas-production, particularly looking at potential contributions from livestock-production (manure), sludge, waste, and plants unsuitable for food- and feed-production as preferred biogas-materials, ***but whereas account must be taken of the impact of the energy use of farm manure on soil structure and soil life,***

Or. de

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 2

Recital H

- H. whereas the use of biomass for electricity ***can contribute to reducing*** greenhouse ***gas emissions*** and its use in heating is considered one of the cheapest,

Or. de

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Amendment by Esther De Lange

Amendment 3
Paragraph 1 a (new)

1a. Stresses the contribution that biogas can make to reducing the European Union's energy dependence;

Or. nl

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 4
Paragraph 7

7. Believes that, for biogas installations, just as for animal holdings, sustainability and a size adapted to the particular region are essential if the environmental benefits are to also lead to greater acceptance of animal holdings, which encounter many problems due to an increased number of complaints from neighbours and the general public;

Or. de

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 5
Paragraph 9

9. Reiterates that all financial support for biogas installations ought to be based on the efficiency, technical development and positive greenhouse-gas balance, the creation of added value on farm holdings and in the rural regions and other economic and environmental advantages of installations; stresses that security of food supply to the population must not be jeopardised;

Or. de

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 6
Paragraph 11

11. Notes that the optimal size of a biogas plant depends on various circumstances determining the economics of scale, that should be thoroughly studied; ***considers that, in addition to an economic assessment and the greenhouse gas balance, it is above all necessary to assess the impact of the size of the plant on the surrounding landscape with regard to expansion of monoculture in respect of certain crops;***

Or. de

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 7
Paragraph 12

deleted

Or. de

Amendment by Jan Mulder

Amendment 8
Paragraph 16

16. ***(deletion)*** recalls that funding needs to go to research and development ***and*** promotion of results from specific projects to installations ***(deletion)***;

Or. en

Amendment by Esther De Lange

Amendment 9
Paragraph 18 a (new)

- 18a. Calls on the Member States to give priority to the distribution of 'green gas' via the gas network and to take the necessary policy measures to that end;***

Or. nl

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 10
Paragraph 21

deleted

Or. de

Amendment by Esther De Lange

Amendment 11
Paragraph 21 a (new)

21a. *Draws attention to the major differences in terms of length and content that exist between national approval procedures for biogas installations, and calls on the Member States to prevent national requirements in the area of regional planning, granting of licences and approvals from forming an unnecessary hindrance;*

Or. nl

Amendment by Jan Mulder

Amendment 12
Paragraph 22 a (new)

22a. *Calls on the Commission to establish a common positive list of products which are allowed for use in biogas installations, so as to ensure a level playing field between farmers in different Member States;*

Or. en

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 13
Paragraph 24

24. Demands that the Commission and Member States develop a coherent biogas-policy;

asks the Commission to present a specific report on biogas and its promotion in Europe outlining the necessary changes in European and national laws to facilitate further expansion of the biogas sector, pointing out the most efficient ways of using European funds and programmes as well as giving best practice examples; ***also asks, in this connection, for an assessment to be given of the impact of the various forms of biogas production on climate, the ecology of the landscape, rural incomes and worldwide food security;***

Or. de

Amendment by Jan Mulder

Amendment 14
Paragraph 24 a (new)

24a. Calls for an assessment of the superfluity of the Nitrates Directive once the Groundwater Directive is fully implemented; calls urgently for a review of the definition of livestock manure under the Nitrates Directive, so that only the nitrates originating from animal excrements in the output products of biogas installations are taken into account under the rules governing the maximum amount of manure which can be applied to the land each year, as specified in Annex III of that Directive;

Or. en

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 15
Paragraph 25, point (a)

a) Specific targets for the ***priority use of manure*** for renewable energy production, for instance in the form of the share of the livestock manure that is digested, and considering the agricultural conditions and situation in the Member States,

Or. de

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 16

Paragraph 25, point (b)

- b) Annual statistics and reports on agricultural biogas production in order to be able to follow up on the targets, ***together with comparisons of research results relating to different biogas production methods and sizes of biogas production plants with regard to climate efficiency, ecological aspects and impact on worldwide food supply***;

Or. de

Amendment by Jan Mulder

Amendment 17

Paragraph 25, point (e)

deleted

Or. en

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 18

Paragraph 27

27. Asks the Commission to present proposals for legislation on the use of residues from biogas installations; asks the Commission to ensure that ***only*** organic material ***that permits residues to be used without endangering the environment may be*** used in biogas installations (***deletion***); asks the Commission to consider a ban of growth enhancers in animal feed containing heavy metals if this should prove to be a Europe-wide problem for later use of biogas residues on fields;

Or. de

Amendment by Esther De Lange

Amendment 19

Paragraph 27 a (new)

- 27a. ***Considers that processed products obtained from digestate should no longer be regarded as livestock manure but as 'chemical fertiliser' or 'new generation fertiliser'***;

Or. nl

Amendment by Jan Mulder

Amendment 20
Paragraph 29 a (new)

29a. Urges Member States and the Commission to ensure that biogas installations do not leak methane, as that could compromise the positive effect on global warming;

Or. en

Amendment by Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf

Amendment 21
Paragraph 33

33. Asks the Commission to present a coherent report on European biogas production **and future prospects in this area, including an impact assessment**, to the European Parliament by 15 December 2008 at the latest taking into account the abovementioned proposals and the progress made;

Or. de