RECOMMENDATIONS

Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources

Paving the way for sustainable biogas

The European Biogas Association (EBA) welcomes the proposal of the European Commission to raise the ambition for renewable energy by 2030. **This paper outlines the concerns of the EBA's members with regards to the proposal.**

Europe is world leader in biogas technology for production, upgrading and uses. We counted in our latest report from last year that the European biogas industry produces more than half of the global biogas capacity (18 billion cubic meter out of the 35 calculated by the International Energy Agency (IEA)). This picture reflects the excellent knowhow and participatory success of biogas. For more than 10 years, regions, municipalities, investors, industries, famers, waste managers, energy retailers and fuel suppliers and operators from many other sectors have joined efforts to adapt biogas and biomethane technology to more and more applications.

The European Commission put forward a proposal to revise the Renewable Energy Directive (RED II) to increase production and consumption of renewable energy. The EBA highlights that **any change should aim to raise the current production (18 bcm) to a range from 35 to 42 bcm**, equivalent to 370 TWh and 467 TWh and representing between 46 and 58 GW of production capacity.

The EBA's main recommendations to the proposal to amend the RED II:

1. Decarbonising the EU gas supply;
2. Streamlining cohesion, modernisation and just transition principles in the legislation;
3. Encouraging the use of the most sustainable and circular feedstock to protect biodiversity;
4. Scaling up zero emission and negative emission biomethane in the transport sector;
5. Achieving energy security through an integrated energy market;
6. Ensuring a level playing field between transport fuels;
7. Recognising existing solutions for the consumers to decarbonise their homes;
8. Encouraging new solutions to decarbonise multiple sectors;
9. Ensuring democratic accountability and participation in the decision making;
10. Leveraging the availability of biogenic carbon to replace fossil carbon.

1. Decarbonising the EU gas supply

The EU need gas in the next 10 years and beyond to face (even reduced) local energy demand and biomethane is the primary available renewable gas to decarbonise the supply.

Two specific targets are needed to pull gas decarbonisation:

- **A greenhouse intensity reduction target on the gas consumption by at least 20%** compared to 2018 levels by 2030.
- **A target on consumption of renewable gas of at least 11%** in terms of energy content by 2030.

The EBA believes that **the RED II is the most appropriate instrument to encourage EU Member States to decarbonise the gas supply**. The RED II has specific sub-targets for heating and cooling and the transport sector and the current proposal includes a sub-target for hydrogen used for final energy and non-energy purposes in industry by 2030.

Biomethane is currently available in Europe in the level of 18 bcm and can help many Member States to achieve considerable decarbonisation of their industrial base. A biomethane target in parallel to the hydrogen target will ensure a trusted path for instance for paper and sugar production and for treatment of waste waters in the food industry. Encouraging industries to generate renewable gas and reutilize it in internal processes, including excess heating, will increase energy efficiency considerably and is a virtuous example of industrial symbiosis.

Moreover, diverging industrial wastewater from public sewerage by providing industries with autonomous solutions will reduce the costs of the water services for all households living in industrialized area basins. Also, it will make public wastewater treatment easier with a considerable reduction of the contaminants loading in public waste waters. Through anaerobic digestion it is possible to decrease excess sludge production by up to 70-80% in most cases, meaning thus reduced cost for sludge processing as well.

2. Streamlining cohesion, modernisation and just transition principles in the legislation

Besides encouraging a decarbonised gas supply through an appropriate legislative framework, production of renewable gas must be sustainable and must not lead to indirect negative effects for the climate and environment. **The EBA strongly supports sustainability and greenhouse gas savings criteria for biogas and biomethane that give certainty to producers, consumers and investors**.

The usual lifetime of biogas plants is 15 to 20 years and it is important to safeguard the weakest for reason of cohesion and solidarity. Facilities that were built more than 5 years ago were planned even longer ago. It is unfair and unrealistic to tighten the rules for such plants or to require their enhanced performance without providing them with a tailor-made support or a flexible mechanism to enable the transition. Many operators could simply not bear the costs of innovation and will be forced to borrow new resources or even to sell or close their activity.

Tightening the rules will not result exclusively in loss of renewable energy. There are **serious social consequences, especially for the rural areas**. Without a strong vision on the role of anaerobic digestion in the rural areas translated in the current policy proposals, the worrying demographic gap between urban and rural areas will get worse.

The EBA highlights that planning and permitting of biogas and biomethane projects is a lengthy process. Plants and facilities are not built without consultations between the bidder, buyer, the general public, and any interested party. One year is usually spent just to exchange views and tailor a proposal to respect the concerns of everyone affected in the community and achieve a compromise. We should never forget that behind renewable energy there are people, engineers, entrepreneurs and families that invested in something that they believed contributed to bring a positive change in the world. It is not only an economic surplus.

Environmental performance and sustainability of the projects is assessed beforehand by technical experts and is monitored yearly through the mechanisms and procedures established in the Industrial Emission Directive and the Medium Combustion Plant Directive. Both instruments include processes to prevent and/or rectify pollution.

It is inconsistent with existing legislation to require old plants to uphold additional requirements retroactively and ignore their investments to comply with previous standards and best practices. Moreover, it creates a considerable and quantifiable burden that could be bearded only with tailor made solidarity and modernization support. Without allocation of such resources it is unthinkable to tighten existing criteria.

Sourcing feedstock for anaerobic digestion requires to spend a lot of time on business planning and negotiations between the suppliers and the buyers to agree on the supplies be means of contracts. Contracts that were already signed with timeline exceeding the entry into force of the newly amended REDII will have to be cancelled, if new GHG emission savings cannot be achieved with old feedstocks. Withdrawing from a contract is not easy and it is very likely that one party will sue the other for negligence.

The European Commission's proposal risks to seriously damage operators in the sector because it is too vague. A longer time horizon is needed. When the RED II was adopted in 2018, it was granted an extension to 2026 which should be maintained to ensure clarity and certainty to everyone.

3. Encouraging the use of the most sustainable and circular feedstock to protect biodiversity

3.1 Life Cycle greenhouse gas emissions methodology

Several provisions of RED II (article 31 (2), (3), and (4); and Annex VI, Part B (5)) are changed or deleted in the proposal and the EBA is very concerned about that. The current regime where (i) Member States can calculate the typical greenhouse gas emissions from the cultivation of agricultural raw materials of the areas on their territory classified as level 2 in the nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS); and (ii) biogas and biomethane operators can use them to calculate their actual values according to the LCA methodology to comply with the GHG savings criteria of article 29 (10) is replaced with a system that switches the burden entirely on operators.

The European Commission wrote at pages 104 and 105 of its Impact Assessment (IA) that operators should not use regional values when calculating GHG emissions for the cultivation of raw materials. Regional values may favour imports of feedstock from regions with better climatic conditions to grow them and the overall effect for the climate may be negative (reallocation effect of greenhouse gas emissions), according to the IA. However, the European Commission just showed that, in Germany, imports of feedstocks for biofuels grew from 2016 to 2018, notably from Asia, Australia and Ukraine. There is not any modelling nor analysis of the related GHG savings from the biofuels consumed from the imported feedstock. By reading the IA, the EBA wonders if the Commission analysed the existence and the extent of the reallocation effect that it highlighted.

3.2 Sequential cropping to restore soil fertility and prevent emissions from Indirect Land use Change

The RED II should recognize sequential cropping as implemented in the Biogas Done Right system developed in Italy for the production of advanced biofuels. Sequential crops are a form of intermediate crops where two or more variety are grown on the same field in the same year with a time horizon of minimum five years. Alternating the crops over the five years allows the farmers to grow at the same time a dedicated crop for the production of renewable energy and a crop for the food or feed markets. **The sequential crops are sustainable because they avoid any indirect change on land use**. Sustainability and greenhouse emission reductions of the Biogas Done Right system can be calculated by using the life cycle methodology included the Annex. Acknowledging the possibility to produce advanced biomethane through the crops grown in sequential crops agricultural systems is crucial to ensure development of rural areas and upscale the agronomic knowledge developed in the last 6 years.

The same approach is adopted in France under the label of "Intermediate Crops with Energy Vocation" (independently translated from "culture intermédiaire à vocation énergétique" (CIVE)) and there is interest from many other EU countries to replicate the successful scheme. Since it is not simply an agricultural intensification but an agroecological intensification, where knowledge of climate conditions, conservative agriculture, crop rotations, organic fertilization and soil health are combined, **farmers need time and advice to adopt the tailor-made system that fit their geographical and climatic condition**. As climate varies across regions and countries, so does the soil. It is not possible to establish a list of effects and outcomes for sequential crops to be eligible. But if they comply with the greenhouse gas emission savings criteria, they are meant to deliver sustainable advanced biomethane.

3.3 Residues for advanced biofuels

The EBA strongly supports the development of sustainable biomethane linked to separate collection of bio-waste. Circular economy is a successful programme of the European Union that raised participation and interest of hundred

thousand economic operators that invested in bioeconomy and green economy with a clear interest to advance sustainable businesses and offer renewable clean alternatives to fossil fuels.

Factories and plant in the bioeconomy never focus on exclusive one business. Cascading uses of biomass are almost infinite and every year brings novelty innovation for technology, products and uses. Energy is often just a part of the whole production of bio-based materials and nevertheless it is an important part for the economic viability of the enterprise.

The Commission's proposal to extend the scope of the life cycle methodology of annex V and VI to the residues that are not included in Annex IX would raise severe obstacles to the development of the bioeconomy. It would restrict freedom of choice and would restrict creativity of the operators to investigate and find new sustainable and efficient processes.

Residues are not produced intentionally for the sake of selling them to the manufacturers of the renewable fuels (or to any other manufacturer). Residues are involuntary outputs of normal production practices.

Biomethane from residues is not a primary biofuel and it does not lead to indirect land use changes. On the contrary, it **is and should be considered as an advanced biofuel that can strongly contribute to decarbonisation goals** through high direct greenhouse gas emission savings and zero indirect greenhouse gas emissions.

Anaerobic digestion is an extraordinary technology that runs on low amount of energy compared to all other power generation processes. The energy produced from anaerobic digestion is very efficient and helps to reduce the overall energy consumption as it is in line with the efficiency first principle.

Anaerobic digestion for treatment of bio-waste and residues is one of the best solutions for municipal solid waste management. It is in line with separate collection and the high recycling targets for 2035. Many municipalities invested and are planning to upscale or build from scratches their anaerobic digestion capacity to improve waste management and achieve the objective of zero landfilling. When anaerobic digestion plants are combined with composting capacity, the output is even more circular thanks to the energy efficient process and the production of high-quality soil improvers. It will also contribute to lower the prices that citizens pay for waste management. When anaerobic digestion facilities are built in already developed areas and can provide the local community with reliable outlet for their residues, the climate benefits are even increased because the supply chain is shortened. It is expected that anaerobic digestion does not create distortions in international markets and actually gives flexibility to local enterprises.

The RED II should support the use of residues in anaerobic digestion to produce sustainable biomethane and it should not raise barriers and obstacles.

3.4 Rules for adding new materials to Annex IX

In Article 28 (6) it is written "*The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 35 to amend the list of feedstock set out in Parts A and B of Annex IX by adding, but not removing, feedstock. Feedstock that can be processed only with advanced technologies shall be added to Part A of Annex IX. Feedstock that can be processed into biofuels, or biogas for transport, with mature technologies shall be added to Part B of Annex IX*." The EBA thinks that the second paragraph should be removed from the text.

The RED II itself specifies in a recital "*Such delegated acts shall be based on an analysis of the potential of the raw material as feedstock for the production of biofuels and biogas for transport, taking into account all of the following*". The decisive point whether a feedstock is listed in ANNEX IX, part A, is therefore the potential of a raw material as feedstock. This means the feedstock must be classified as residues or waste or have any other significant advantage for the environment (permanent soil cover, biodiversity promotion, humus formation etc). Important is that the use of that feedstock is beneficial and will thus be promoted in a special way. As it is now, should new feedstocks be added, for example melliferous plants for biogas use and processed with mature technology, they could be added to part B of ANNEX IX and thus be limited at 1,7 %. However, the sustainability of the newly added feedstock has nothing to do with the technology which is used to process them. It does not matter at all whether it is handled by mature or "advanced" technology. On the worse, it is not even defined within RED II what classifies as "advanced" and "mature" technology. Thus, we do not see any sense in this stipulation and ask for a deletion as follows:

> "28 (6) The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 35 to amend the list of feedstock set out in Parts A and B of Annex IX by adding, but not removing, feedstock. ~~Feedstock that can be processed only with advanced technologies shall be added to Part A of Annex IX. Feedstock that can be processed into biofuels, or biogas for transport, with mature technologies shall be added to Part B of Annex IX.~~"

3.5 Mixed wild flowering plants to restore biodiversity on the land

In order to transition from primary biofuels to sustainable feedstock for advanced and sustainable biomethane and biogas, **the definition of non-food cellulosic material should be revised to clarify that crops that are grown to attract more pollinators on the fields fall within the scope**.

A very good ecological evaluation is given in various studies to so-called wild plant mixtures, i.e. annual or perennial mixed cultures with a large number of different species. These guarantee a high plant diversity which at the same time serves as food source and habitat for insects and other animals. In particular, in the case of perennial cultivation, areas with mixed cultures provide an ideal retreat in winter while at the same time protecting against erosion. As a rule, plant protection measures should not be necessary for perennial mixed cultures as any weeds that may occur can also be fermented and even contribute to increasing biodiversity.

The ecological advantage is not only given by the habitat for the many animals and insects, but also by the high nutrient absorption capacity of wild plants which makes a great contribution to groundwater protection.

Currently there is no economically viable, long-term perspective for planting wild plants in fields, even it would benefit insects enormously. However, **with the possibility of harvesting the flowers and fermenting them, not only additional habitat for wildlife is grown but also energy could be produced**.

Mowing from the 1st of April till the 30th of June is not necessary for wild plant mixtures. An extensive protection of wild animals, especially during the breeding and rearing periods, is therefore guaranteed. The possibility of using these areas after the 30th of June would, however, create an economic incentive for their creation, which would make a considerable contribution to biotope improvement. The use of pruning would not have any negative effects on the field fauna, since the biomass of other ecological areas must be pruned at least once a year as part of a maintenance pruning.

4. Scaling up zero emission and negative emission biomethane in the transport sector

The RED II already acknowledges negative emissions for biogas and biomethane which allow them to perform as well as or even better than electricity. Although the rules have still a few weaknesses, they established a clear framework to incentivize sustainable decarbonisation. In future, the EBA hopes that the default values in annex VI will be extended to more scenarios than the available limited options currently available which oblige thousands of operators to calculate actual life cycle greenhouse gas emission savings on their own. **A dedicated pathway on bioLPG pathway standard and default values will be crucial.**

Yet, biogas and biomethane are the best performing renewable fuels and they achieve better greenhouse gas savings than all other advanced biofuels and low-carbon, synthetic or recycled carbon fuels.

Any framework encouraging decarbonisation of transport should acknowledge the achievements of biomethane and directly promote its supply to all transport modes, from passenger vehicles, trucks, busses and ships.

In this regards the EBA highlights that **the targets for advanced biofuels (ABs) and renewable fuels of non-biological origin (RFNBOs) should not be different**. It is true that the multipliers for biomethane apply only for aviation and maritime while multipliers for RFNBOs apply to all transport modes. But any administrative artifact to change accounting of renewable energy reduces credibility and certainty for operators, investors manufacturers and buyers. On the contrary, the targets have a stronger political value for the whole value chain and give long term perspective and clarity to the economy. Moreover, advanced biofuels are too broad and sometimes vague concept. The new label of low carbon also simply adds complexities. Member States and investors are often lost with all solutions and possibilities.

At the same time, **the EBA suggests raising the ambition of the target on GHG intensity reduction to reflect the ambition of decarbonised transport**.

5. Achieving energy security through an integrated renewable energy market

5.1 Guarantees of Origins enabling trading of sustainable biomethane

One of the key elements of an enabling policy framework is creating a European market for all renewables. The EU has already created well-functional trading conditions for renewable electricity. The gas sector needs similar easiness to

trade volumes and guarantees origin (GOs) of renewable gases across borders. The RED II made the introduction of GOs (article 19) for renewable gases mandatory but it leaves great uncertainties for market players with regard to the implementation and content of the GOs, and the acknowledgement of a GO as a proof of biomethane purchase in other regulations, such as EU ETS or support schemes and quotas.

Moreover, the RED II has expanded the sustainability and GHG reduction criteria for biogas/biomethane and other biomass fuels from transport to all energy uses (Art. 29 and 30). To show compliance with these criteria, the RED II provides two options: follow a national scheme or certification by so-called "voluntary certification schemes" which must be recognized by the European Commission. Certification of compliance with sustainability criteria has to be based on the principle of mass balancing, which implies a certain degree of "physical tracking". GOs on the other hand can be transferred separately or together with the physical transfer of energy, which is often referred to as "book & claim" principle.

EBA considers that different schemes for certification and traceability of renewable gases such as biomethane have to be made more practical. Notably the instrument of **GOs should be enhanced** and its role should evolve beyond its current, limited function foreseen in RED II. This might require some legislative changes on EU level, notably articles 19, 29 and 30 of RED II. The revision of GOs should facilitate cross-border trade of biomethane, their recognition under different policy instruments, thereby avoiding double counting.

One option of combining GOs and sustainability certificates could be to use the mass balancing-based sustainability certification process defined by RED II only for the upstream part of the value chain, i.e. "physical tracking" of the feedstock up to the point of production. Once the renewable gas is produced and injected in the grid or transported by other means, GOs should become the main instrument to carry information. Mass balancing would not be necessary and thus not apply any more. The same approach could ideally be used for a company´s all logistic sites for off grid gas, which would greatly increase the efficiency of renewable gas distribution and trade, where tracking and allocation of renewable volumes could be based on GOs rather than mass balancing in the distribution part. The "sustainability certificate" could be attached to the GO and/or information on compliance with sustainability criteria should be included in the GO based on the "sustainability certificate".

The guarantees of origin should also be extended to liquified renewable gas in order to facilitate decarbonization of sectors such as maritime, heavy-duty transport or various industries. Production of biomethane that is liquified at production site is growing fast in Europe, allowing notably to valorize the potential located far from gas grids. This development of liquified biomethane should be further incentivized to be able to serve in particular mobility needs through a proper regulatory framework (GOs, sustainability certification schemes adapted to liquified gas logistics, support mechanisms …); however, as volumes of liquified biomethane are still limited, in order to kickstart the market for using renewable gaseous fuels in transport, the use of GOs from injected biomethane for liquified gas end users should be possible. This use should be reassessed regularly, taking into account the evolution of the market.

5.2 The Union Database

Likewise, application of the provisions on the EU database to enable the tracing of liquid and gaseous renewable fuels and recycled carbon fuels should be postponed to the approval of common rules to prove sustainability of gaseous fuels. The co-legislators should reassess the added value of using the Union database for gaseous fuels and consider excluding such fuels from its scope.

If co-legislators see the overwhelming necessity in using such database for gases, the proposed Article 31a should be further clarified and adapted to the functioning of the internal EU gas market following the recommendations below.

First, it is not clear if the Union database should be used for the target compliance, monitoring of the EU ETS carbon offset obligations, consumer disclosure or all. The purpose of the Union database and scope of its application should be clearly indicated. Moreover, the date when such Union database should become operational is not defined which creates uncertainty for the market players and requires changes.

In addition, it should be pointed out that the scope of the Union database is limited to the liquid and gaseous energy carriers and does not include, for example, electricity, heating and cooling. Therefore, it is not clear how the Union

database could help improve traceability of energy carriers and allow market operators and policy makers to take the right decisions for their energy mix, as intended and declared in the Impact Assessment Report. The legislator should consider if the Union database is the right policy tool for achieving this goal and if its scope should be extended to other energy carriers in line with the sector coupling principles.

Second, it does not take into account existing certification tools such as GOs. EU Member States are already obliged by RED II to extend the scope of their GO schemes to renewable gases and have started working on it and making necessary investments in the development of their GO registries (databases) and auditing procedures. The legislator should recognise the efforts made at the national level and allow to register GOs as a proof of renewable origin of energy and its sustainability in the Union Database (see also our proposals to Articles 19 and 30 above).

Third, the proposed measure is not adapted to the internal gas market design. According to Article 31a economic operators will be required to register transactions together with the sustainability characteristics of the underlying commodities (gas fuels). This requirement does not take into account specificities of the gas market functioning.

In particular, it does not recognise that the European gas infrastructure represent a single logistical facility where individual physical flows do not match individual trades, for the purpose of network use optimisation. Moreover, in the internal market, gases are traded as standardised products (commodities) with no indication of their origin or other characteristics. This design ensures market liquidity, security of gas supply and the best pricing for the energy commodity.

Linking the sustainability information to the individual trades or physical flow of commodities (that are meant to be interchangeable when transported inside of the single logistical facility) would ruin the current effective set-up of the internal gas market. It will create unnecessary costs for all market agents, un-optimal infrastructure use which means fragmentation of the gas market at the wholesale level, further emissions (due to redundant molecule hauls) and be likely followed by price fluctuations and negative implications for the security of supply.

6. Ensuring a level playing field between transport fuels

The EBA is very concerned of the lack of level playing field between electricity and renewable gas: article 25(2) include a positive ground-breaking provision that recognizes economic operators as local energy providers insofar it is written in the proposal that

> *"Member States shall establish a mechanism allowing fuel suppliers in their territory to exchange credits for supplying renewable energy to the transport sector. Economic operators that supply renewable electricity to electric vehicles through public recharging stations shall receive credits, irrespectively of whether the economic operators are subject to the obligation set by the Member State on fuel suppliers, and may sell those credits to fuel suppliers, which shall be allowed to use the credits to fulfil the obligation set out in paragraph 1, first subparagraph [i.e. a greenhouse gas intensity reduction of at least 13 % by 2030, compared to the baseline."*

In this regards, the EBA highlights once again that a greenhouse gas intensity reduction of 13 % is not ambitious enough and should be raised, biomethane and hydrogen consumption along electricity consumption would be included.

Economic operators that inject biomethane in the gas grid or supply it via public filling stations shall receive the same credits that they can receive via electricity.

7. Recognising all existing solutions for the consumers to decarbonise their homes

The EBA is afraid that the Commission's proposal lacks clarity about the contribution of renewable gases to the sectoral target of renewable energy in buildings. They can offer reliable decarbonisation pathways both in urban areas are supplied directly supplied through the existing gas grids and off-grid in rural areas where the cost of electrification is not affordable.

First, the revision should be clearer about support by Member States to *"renewable heating systems and equipment*" by reformulating that this support should be for "*heating systems and equipment compatible with renewable energy sources, including renewable gases*". The Directive should avoid wording creating confusion like "*renewable heating and cooling systems*" or "*fossil heating systems*". **In heating appliances, it is the fuel source not the heating technology itself that determines the renewable feature of the heating**.

Second, regarding measures that Member States may implement to achieve the target in heating and cooling (Article 23), lawmakers should ensure that certified biomethane distributed to buildings through gas grids are recognised as a renewable source of heat and count towards the renewable energy targets.

8. Encouraging new solutions to decarbonise multiple sectors

Renewable gases such as **bioLPG** can be produced from a variety of production pathways using renewable feedstocks.

BioLPG was launched in 2018 and **currently available in modest but growing volumes**, however, the production is scaling up as hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) renewable capacity continues to increase. Moreover, additional pathways can also generate bioLPG as a co-product.

The revised RED II should recognize the important role that renewable gaseous fuels such as bioLPG and rDME can play in achieving the objectives of the European Green Deal. It is therefore key that the relevant EU institutions initiate the process to update annexes to reflect the technological state of play with regard to the production pathways of bioLPG and rDME. Pathway details are available and can be provided on demand.

9. Ensuring democratic accountability and participation in the decision making

Implementing the principle for cascading use of biomass is a legitimate, ambitious, fair and needed action. The EBA welcomes the European Commission's intention to guarantee sustainability in biomass use and reduce indirect effects on natural environment that could lead to over exploitation of renewable natural resources.

Given the importance of the interests at stakes, the EBA believes that the implementation of the principle should not come without an impact assessment and the involvement of the European Parliament or it will suffer of a severe democratic gap.

10. Leveraging the availability of biogenic carbon to replace fossil carbon

The current Renewable Energy Directive 2018/2001 does include the capture and storage of biogenic CO2 as well as the use of the biogenic CO2 to replace fossil CO2 that is already used by a consumer of CO2. In this case, the phrasing implies that the biogenic CO2 is replacing a previously used fossil CO2 in a consumer installation.

Therefore, it does not recognise the cases where a newly installed consumer will get its supply of CO2 directly from a biogenic source without the intermediate step of fossil CO2. These new consumers could be, for instance, a wastewater treatment implementing new algae growth, a new CO2-to-fuel facility, or a site for CO2 mineralisation.

- It should also be accounted for in the quantification of GHG emissions, just like it can be done for permanent storage of CO2 and replacement of fossil CO2.
- The operator of the biogas digesters should be able to claim the GHG emission savings made in this case.

This should be reflected in the revised RED II.

Contact

Marco Giacomazzi – Policy Officer giacomazzi@europeanbiogas.eu

About the EBA

The **European Biogas Association** is the voice of renewable gas in Europe since 2009. EBA advocates the recognition of biomethane and other renewable gases as sustainable, on demand and flexible energy sources that provide multiple knock-on socio-economic and environmental benefits. Supported by its members, EBA is committed to work with European institutions, industry, agricultural partners, NGOs and academia to develop policies which can enable the large-scale deployment of renewable gases and organic fertilisers throughout Europe, supported by transparent, well-established sustainability certification bodies to ensure that sustainability remains at the core of the industry. The association counts today on a well-established network of over 200 national organisations, scientific institutes, and companies from Europe and beyond.