

## European Biogas Association to cooperate with global GHG Protocol in developing rules for the reporting of biomethane purchase

Brussels 25/09/23 – The [European Biogas Association](#) (EBA), together with the [Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas](#) (RNG Coalition), met last week with Pankaj Bhatia, Global Director of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol at World Resources Institute, during the New York Climate Week. They discussed the growing production and use of biomethane in Europe and North America and explored possibilities for **future collaboration to facilitate the accounting and reporting of biomethane certificates under the GHG Protocol**. Recognition of sustainable biomethane certificates will be key in delivering the sustainable scale-up of the sector to reach the 35 bcm biomethane production target in Europe by 2030.

The [GHG Protocol](#), jointly created by the World Resources Institute and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, provides a framework for companies to measure their GHG emissions and report on their decarbonisation targets. It has become one of the most widely used frameworks worldwide with more than 2,100 large companies in Europe using it. Yet, the GHG Protocol still does not have accounting rules for biomethane certificates, which contain the certified GHG emissions of the consumption of biomethane and represent the predominant way in which biomethane is purchased.

The meeting was therefore the opportunity for leaders of the biogases value chain and the World Resource Institute to discuss the process to **include the treatment of biomethane certificates under the GHG Protocol**. They agreed on the urgency to define a reliable and solid methodology for biomethane certificates, as more and more companies using the GHG Protocol framework look to biomethane to decarbonise their activities. They decided to leverage their organisations' expertise to speed up the process of developing new rules for the accounting of biomethane certificates, such as EU Proofs of sustainability, in the GHG inventory of companies. **EBA, along with RNG Coalition, committed to provide in the coming months expertise to the World Resource Institute concerning the certification and documentation of biomethane in the European Union and North America. They specifically agreed on plans for a workshop in 2024.**

By providing reliable proof of the renewability and sustainability of purchased biomethane volumes, biomethane certificates are a foundation of growing biomethane market. They create value for producers who inject biomethane into existing gas grids and offer an affordable opportunity for end-users to decarbonise their processes.

**EBA CEO Harmen Dekker said:** *“Looking back at the good cooperation and constructive exchanges, we continue to work with the World Resource Institute to facilitate the uptake of biomethane within the GHG Protocol. GHG emissions reporting frameworks can support EU’s efforts to reach 35 bcm of sustainable biomethane production by 2030, by enabling corporate end-users to report on their biomethane purchases and to measure its climate benefits on their activities.”*

**RNG Coalition Co-Founder and CFO David Cox said:** *“Our engagement with the World Resource Institute continues to be constructive. A market-based approach to environmental attributes is a proven catalyst for growth and ensures renewable gases contribute positively to our clean energy present and future.”*

**Pankaj Bhatia, Global Director of GHG Protocol at World Resources Institute (WRI) said:** *“Today’s meeting was a productive and positive conversation between WRI, EBA and RNG Coalition. I confirmed that WRI plans to remove the biomethane annex from the final Land Sector and Removals Guidance in order to allow for a full exploration of these options and issues, and that we are committed to working with them to ensure that existing best practices are incorporated in any future guidance on GHG Protocol so that renewable gas transactions are carried out with the highest level of integrity and confidence.”*

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## Contact

Fanny Lamon – EBA Communications Officer [lamon@europeanbiogas.eu](mailto:lamon@europeanbiogas.eu)

### About the European Biogas Association (EBA)

The EBA is the voice of renewable gas in Europe. Founded in February 2009, the association is committed to the active promotion of the deployment of sustainable biogas and biomethane production and use throughout the continent. The association counts today on a well-established network of over 250 national associations and other organisations representing the whole biogas and biomethane value chain.

### About biogas and biomethane

Biogas is produced from the decomposition of organic materials. These residues are placed in a biogas digester in the absence of oxygen. With the help of a range of bacteria, organic matter breaks down, releasing a blend of gases: 45 – 85 vol% methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and 25 – 50 vol% carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). The output is a renewable gas which can be used for multiple applications. Biomethane – purified biogas – is a renewable alternative to natural gas. Its multiple applications include heat and power supply for our buildings and industries, and renewable fuel production for the transport sector.

### About the Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas (RNG Coalition)

RNG Coalition is the non-profit association providing public policy advocacy and education for the sustainable development, deployment, and utilisation of renewable natural gas. RNG Coalition membership is comprised of 380+ leading companies, municipalities, ports and airports, colleges, and universities throughout the United States and Canada. Find out more at: [www.rngcoalition.com](http://www.rngcoalition.com)