

FuelsEurope has been seriously misrepresented in statements included in Influence Map report “Big Oil’s Real Agenda on Climate Change”

Brussels 22 March 2018: Influence Map report “Big Oil’s Real Agenda on Climate Change” published this Friday 22nd March. This report, which explicitly refers to FuelsEurope, completely misrepresents the positions of the Association and the EU refining industry with regard to the free allocations for industrial sectors at risk of carbon leakage under the EU ETS, and for vehicle CO₂ policy and electrification.

FuelsEurope, representing the EU refining industry with a membership of 40 companies, has supported the COP21 Paris Agreement from its inception and is engaged in the EU policy debate for the purpose of contributing to effectively address climate change (<https://www.fuelseurope.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/fuelseurope-press-release-outcome-cop21-17-december-2015.pdf>).

With the allegation “FuelsEurope [...] weaken the impact of the EU ETS by pushing for greater immunity for industry installations through the allocation of free emission permits”, the report provides a serious misrepresentation. John Cooper underlines “Free

allocations of permits are an essential component of the EU ETS regulation: their purpose is to address the risk of carbon leakage, i.e. the relocation of industrial activities from the EU to other world regions with weaker or no carbon policies. Without free allocation, there would be a risk of net increase in carbon emissions at global level. FuelsEurope’s contribution on ETS aims at ensuring a truthful and accurate calculation of the level of free allocations, to minimise the risk of carbon leakage”.

With the allegation “FuelsEurope [...] lobbied against progressive policy to promote electric vehicles in the US and EU in 2017-2018”, the article provides another serious misrepresentation. John Cooper stresses “In fact, FuelsEurope never opposed the proposed CO₂ emission standards for cars. It proposed a holistic assessment of the contribution of fuels, energy and vehicle manufacturing to the carbon emissions in light duty transport. This would ensure a technology-inclusive approach, in the interest of finding the most effective and efficient technologies to reduce CO₂ from transport”.

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FuelsEurope, the voice of the European petroleum refining industry

FuelsEurope represents with the EU institutions the interest of 40 companies operating refineries in the EU. Members account for almost 100% of EU petroleum refining capacity and more than 75% of EU motor fuel retail sales.

FuelsEurope aims to promote economically and environmentally sustainable refining, supply and use of petroleum products in the EU, by providing input and expert advice to the EU institutions, Member State Governments and the wider community and thus contributing in a constructive and pro-active way to the development and implementation of EU policies and regulations.

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