

FuelsEurope welcomes the recognition of renewable fuels and technology neutrality in heavy-duty transport by the European Economic and Social Committee

Brussels 20 July 2023: FuelsEurope welcomes the adoption of the Opinion on the [‘Review of the CO₂ emission standards for heavy-duty vehicles’](#) by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) presented by Rapporteur Dirk Bergrath, Head IG Metal Brussels office, and co-rapporteur Alessandro Bartelloni FuelsEurope Director.

Alessandro Bartelloni described the adoption of the Opinion "*After months of intense activity in the working group, we have the reward of the approval by the EESC Plenary. An Opinion on decarbonising heavy-duty vehicles while enhancing EU industry’s leadership and competitiveness, security of supply and social rights. Without technology bans.*"

The Opinion highlights the role of the Fit-for-55 Package, as the cornerstone that “must ensure a life-cycle approach and avoid road transport decarbonisation leading to a shift of emissions upstream in the value chain.”

The EESC “*thinks that the proposed regulation based on the tailpipe approach only needs to be complemented by other policy instruments to incentivise the use of renewable, non-fossil fuels for the part of the fleet running on ICE. The Fit-for-55 package must ensure a life-cycle approach and avoid road transport decarbonisation leading to a shift of emissions upstream in the value chain.*”

Alessandro Bartelloni furthermore added “*The Opinion adopted last week underlines that the resilience of the EU economy would benefit from a diversified technology strategy, with sustainable fuels complementing BEVs and hydrogen vehicles, while these two technologies develop and widen their domestic EU basis, and that the technology-neutral option presents numerous advantages. It would notably mitigate the risks both in technology development and in the security of supply.*”

Finally, the ‘Review of the CO₂ emission standards for heavy-duty vehicles’ Opinion highlights that “the methodology distinguishing between linear CO₂ emissions (from fossil fuels) and circular or net-zero emissions (from e-fuels and sustainable biofuels), in a life-cycle context, shows that efficient ICE and hybrid vehicles, fuelled by sustainable biofuels and e-fuels, have a carbon footprint comparable to that of BEVs using fossil-based electricity”.

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Link to the Opinion: <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/review-co2-emission-standards-heavy-duty-vehicles>

FuelsEurope, the voice of the European fuel manufacturing industry.

FuelsEurope represents with the EU institutions the interest of 39 companies manufacturing and distributing liquid fuels and products for mobility, energy & feedstocks for industrial value chains in the EU.

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