

The first national report concerning the promotion of the use of biofuels or other renewable fuels for transport in Romania Directive 2003/30/EC

1. Introduction

In accordance with the article 4 from the Directive 2003/30/EC concerning the promotion of the use of biofuels or other renewable fuels for transport, the member states shall report to the Commission, before 1 July each year:

- a. the measures taken to promote the use of biofuels or other renewable fuels to replace diesel or petrol for transport purposes;
- b. the national resources allocated to the production of biomass for energy uses other than transport;
- c. the total sales of transport fuel and the share of biofuels, pure or blended, and other renewable fuels placed on the market for the preceding year. Where appropriate, Member States shall report on any exceptional conditions in the supply of crude oil or oil products that have affected the marketing of biofuels and other renewable fuels.

2.1. Measure on the promotion of the use of biofuels or other renewable fuels for transport

2.2. Legal framework

The promotion of the use of biofuels or other renewable fuels for transport is made in order to replace in a certain measure diesel or petrol, with a view to contributing to objectives such as achieving the commitments concerning the reduction of the greenhouse gas emissions, ensuring the environmentally friendly security of fuel supply by rising the degree of energy independence and promoting renewable energy sources.

Also, promoting the use of biofuels could create new opportunities for sustainable rural development and could open new markets for agricultural products.

The provision of the Directive 2003/30/EC were been transposed entirely in the Government Decision, no. 1844/2005 concerning the promotion of the use of biofuels and other renewable fuels for transport, published in the Official Monitor, no. 44 from 18 January 2006.

Romania should ensure the introduction on the market for transport purposes, of a minimum percentage for biofuels and other renewable fuels of 5.75% till 2010, calculated on the basis of energy content of all petrol and diesel used in transport.

In order to reach the establish target, it was amended the Government Decision, no. 1844/2005 with the Government Decision, no. 456/2007, published in the Official Monitor no. 345 from 22 May 2007, who establishes the gradual introduction of a minimum percent of biofuels in conventional fuels, as fallow:

- a. from 1st July 2007, diesel with a minimum biofuel content of 2% in volum;
- b. from 1st January 2008, diesel with a minimum biofuel content of 3% in volum;
- c. from 1st July 2008, diesel with a minimum biofuel content of 4% in volum;
- d. from 1st July 2009, petrol with a minimum biofuel content of 4% in volum;

2.2. The promotion of the economical instruments:

Romania took a series of actions in order to contribute to the promotion of the use of biofuels or other renewable fuels. In this context we mention:

- The introduction in the Fiscal Code of an excise exemption for the energy products like biofuels and other renewable fuels.

This provision made the object of the article 201, letter 1 from Law no. 571/2003 concerning the Fiscal Code, amended and completed by the Law 343/2006, published in the Official Monitor, number..

Methodological standards of implementation of the new Fiscal Code are being approved by the Government Decision, no. 1861/21.12.2006.

- The Government Ordinance no. 44/2006 concerning the modification of the Emergency Government Ordinance no. 25/2006 for approving the level of support granted to the agricultural producers for buying diesel in order to make the mechanized agricultural works for setting up and maintaining of some agricultural crops that are starting in the spring of the 2006.

In accordance with the article 1, paragraph (1), in order to start the activities for the development of the crops, made in the autumn of the 2006, it is given to the agricultural producers a financial support of one leu/liter for buying diesel and used biodiesel.

3. The Romanian potential concerning the biomass

In the geographical environment condition it is being appreciate that Romania has a raised biomass energy potential, evaluated of about 7,594 thousands toe/year * (318x10⁹ MJ/year), which represents almost 19% from the entire consumption of raw material at the level of 2000, shared in the following categories of fuels:

- Residues from forest plants and fire wood – 1.175 thousands toe/year (49,8x10⁹MJ/year);
- Wood wastage – sawdust and other short wood ends – 487 thousands toe (20,4x10⁹MJ/year);
- Agricultural wastage from cereals, steam maize, vegetable residues of grape – 4,799 thousands toe (200.9x10⁹ MJ/year);
- Biofuel – 588 thousands toe (24.6x10⁹ MJ/year);
- Wastage and municipal waste – 545 thousands toe (22.8x10⁹ MJ/year)

The biomass is the main agricultural fuel being used especially for heating the place and the water and also for cooking.

The biomass represents 7% from the primary energy request and 50% from the Romanian means of renewable resources.

* The Romanian strategy concerning the use of the renewable sources of energy consented by the Government Decision, no. 1535/2003.

4. The Romanian means concerning the producing of biofuels

Taking into account the quantities of fuel appreciated to be use annual, it results that is necessary to assure a quantity of biofuels of about 300 thousands t/year, for 2010.

The Romanian means to supply the necessary quantity, meaning vegetable oil (sun flower, soy, rape) is about 500-550 thousands t/year, which allows the achievement of a similar level of biodiesel production (about 500-550 thousands t/year).

At the beginning of 2007 there are operative on the market biofuel producers and in the next period there will be putt in action new capacities of production. There

is also some interest for building new means of production in the next years. Based on the information provided by the stakeholders and from their discussions it can be appreciated that Romania can dispose of a capacity production of about 400 thousands tones/year for biodiesel and about 50 thousands tones/year for bioethanol at the end of 2008.

In this way, they are been assured the premises of reaching the target of 10% of biofuels for 2020, calculated on the base of the energy contained of all types of petrol and diesel used in transport, target included in the package of energy measures for energy approved by the European Council (march 2007).

The means of assuring the raw material can be provided by biodiesell (rape seed, sun flower, and soy) and by bioethanol (maize, sugar, beet, potatoes, residues from forest plants and fire wood).

5. Total sales of fuels from transport - 2006

<i>Type of fuel</i>	<i>Total sales (tone)</i>
<i>Unleaded Petrol (min. RON = 95)</i>	<i>1183627</i>
<i>Unleaded Petrol (min. RON = 95 & < 50 ppm sulfur)</i>	<i>137509</i>
<i>Unleaded Petrol (min. RON = 98 & < 50 ppm sulfur)</i>	<i>66205</i>
<i>Unleaded Petrol (min. RON = 98 & < 10 ppm sulfur)</i>	<i>65909</i>
<i>Total petrol (regular)</i>	<i>1183627</i>
<i>Total petrol < 50 ppm sulfur</i>	<i>203714</i>
<i>Total petrol < 10 ppm sulfur</i>	<i>65909</i>
<i>Total petrol</i>	<i>1,453,250</i>
<i>Regular Diesel Oil</i>	<i>1087458</i>
<i>Diesel Oil < 50 ppm sulfur</i>	<i>1537472</i>
<i>Diesel Oil < 10 ppm sulfur</i>	<i>478913</i>
<i>Total Diesel Oil</i>	<i>3,103,843</i>
<i>Total petrol and diesel oil</i>	<i>4,557,093</i>

6. Total sales of biofuels from transport

In 2006 in Romania were been produced about 3200 tones of biodiesel.