

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-001236/25
to the Commission
Asger Christensen (Renew)
(25 March 2025)**

Subject: Average calculation for biomass, ‘spoiled’ edible oils from China and grass as a climate and aquatic environment instrument

1. Does the Commission agree that biogas plants' revenues from meeting carbon displacement requirements with animal-manure-based biogas for the transport sector have fallen significantly as a result of the requirement to use average calculations instead of mass balance for apportioning purposes, and, in order to ensure renewed market pull for biogas, will the Commission work towards a new interpretation during revision of Annex VI, in connection with the new RED III, which makes it clear that the climate footprint of biogas produced can be apportioned on the basis of biomass used as documented through proof-of-sustainability certification?
2. Can the Commission say whether the new anti-dumping duty on Chinese biofuels is sufficient to prevent the import of what are questionable biofuels and, in addition, whether it can stop those imports by restricting their use to below the same 1.7% cap as for used cooking oil or through more stringent certification in the supply chain?
3. Can the Commission say whether it would not be appropriate for biomass harvested from areas that have been converted from cultivation of annual crops to perennial crops such as grass, in order to protect the aquatic environment, to be included as sustainable biomass in Annex IX to the Renewable Energy Directive?

Submitted: 25.3.2025

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(12 June 2025)**

The Commission plans the adoption of an update of Annex VI including the methodology for greenhouse gas emissions accounting along the production pathway of biogas and biomethane by end of 2025.

A public consultation will give an opportunity for stakeholders to provide evidence about the use of average calculations for apportioning purposes.

The anti-dumping duties imposed on biodiesel from China cover all biodiesel apart from sustainable aviation fuel. The aim of these measures is to restore a level playing field with the EU industry in terms of pricing of the imported goods.

A robust global sustainability certification and traceability system is important for ensuring that only sustainable fuels are counted for our decarbonisation targets.

The relevant sustainability rules are set out in Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/996 ⁽¹⁾. The Commission is currently working with the Member States on means to strengthen the sustainability rules, including the necessary provisions for the roll-out of the Union database for biofuels as a global traceability tool.

Currently, there is no evidence about the cultivation of perennial crops on land previously used for annual crops to protect the aquatic environment. The Commission may assess the matter in the future.

Many perennial crops are, however, already included under the existing scope of Annex IX of the Renewable Energy Directive ⁽²⁾. Point (p) of Part A of the annex covers for instance ‘Other non-food cellulosic material’.

Non-food cellulosic material is defined in Article 2 (42) of the directive and includes food and feed crop residues, such as straw, stover, husks and shells; grassy energy crops with a low starch content, such as ryegrass, switchgrass, miscanthus, giant cane as well as other material.

⁽¹⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2022/996/oj/eng.

⁽²⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32018L2001#anx_IX.