



Press Release



ePURE welcomes the application of anti-dumping duties on US ethanol entering the EU through Norway

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Brussels, Today – following an opinion of the European Commission that will put an effective end to the circumvention of EU anti-dumping duties on US fuel ethanol through Norway, the European Renewable Ethanol Association (ePURE) has today withdrawn its request for an anti-circumvention investigation.

Following the European Union's imposition of anti-dumping duties on imported US fuel ethanol in February 2013, a new pattern of trade from the US to Europe had developed. US exporters started to ship substantial volumes of fuel ethanol to Norway, where it was blended with gasoline and then exported to the EU.

Because the ethanol was mixed with gasoline in Norway the resulting product was declared to originate in Norway rather than the US. Therefore, EU customs did not levy anti-dumping duties on the US ethanol.

ePURE argued that the anti-dumping had to be levied as this operation is not economically justified on two grounds. First of all the product cannot be used in the EU without being processed further and secondly, the EU is a net exporter of gasoline. As a consequence of this operation the EU ethanol industry was once more the victim of unfair trade practices and the EU lost millions of euros of revenue for the EU budget.

The European Commission and Member States agreed to ePURE's views that the sole objective of this operation in Norway was to circumvent anti-dumping duties on US originating renewable fuel ethanol. Therefore origin cannot be conferred to the country where the operation is taking place. Consequently, anti-dumping duties have to be applied on US ethanol wherever it went first before entering the EU.

"ePURE welcomes the European Commission's effort in finding an effective solution to prevent the circumvention of anti-dumping duties. An anti-circumvention investigation by the European Commission would have taken much more time to deliver results. The solution that has now been found puts an immediate end to these unfair trade practices and shields the EU industry from further injury", said Rob Vierhout, ePURE's Secretary-General.

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The European Renewable Ethanol Association (ePURE) represents the interests of European renewable ethanol producers to the European institutions, industry stakeholders, the media, academia and the general public. Based in Brussels, ePURE represents 56 member companies, with production plants in 16 member states, accounting for 90% of the installed renewable ethanol production capacity in Europe. The organisation, established in 2010, promotes the beneficial uses of ethanol throughout Europe.

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