



Report of the first part of the round table

3 – “Energy efficiency and carbon” programmes

The challenge

The objectives of the method proposed by workgroup 1 have been validated:

- Contributing in an ambitious and determined manner to the European objective of “3 x 20 in 2020” objective;
- Setting France on the “factor 4” course – reducing our emissions 4-fold by 2050;
- “+20 megatons of equivalent oil by 2020”: increasing our renewable energy production by 20 million equivalent oil tons by 2020 and exceeding 20% of renewable energies in overall final energy consumption nationwide;
- Energy savings: opening up of sector-based projects: building – 38% over the next 12 years; transport / mobility – 20% over the next 12 years / setting up of immediate and / or structuring operational measures.

Structuring measures

1 – Telling the truth about ecological cost

- Giving an indication of ecological prices next to purchase price
 - Giving a competitive advantage to carbon-virtuous products
 - Attaching a price to carbon.
1. **Giving an indication of a carbon price or an ecological price** through labelling of products by major retail by the end of 2010 (beforehand, a cost / efficiency analysis for the chosen products and expert analyses of the labelling criteria chosen)
 2. **Giving virtuous products a competitive advantage**, i.e. those products with a low carbon footprint, funded by deductions on the least virtuous products on the model of the bonus / malus mechanism for vehicles.

Prior experimentation with 20 or so families of products according to the recommendations of a monitoring committee which would meet for this purpose.

The competitive advantage of virtuous products would progressively be increased. Principle of buying power neutrality in the mechanism since there will be a choice between different products.

3. Giving a carbon price or a more general price indicator in the form of a climate / energy contribution price

At European and international level

Developing the CO₂ emission trading scheme with a bargaining level which takes exposure to international competition into account. French support for a carbon tax project world-wide, or global sector-based agreements targeting the most carbon-intensive products first (cement, etc...). If this does not work, European negotiation for a cross-border adjustment mechanism targeting imported products and conditional upon their carbon content, or in the form of tax, or through the compulsory purchase of corresponding CO₂ quotas.

Domestically

Agreement of all participations of the round table in recognising the benefits of a climate / energy contribution.

Two approaches were expressed:

- Either that Grenelle states the principle of the creation of an energy / climate contribution at the outset and refers it to a workgroup to study the conditions under which it could be introduced;
- Or the Grenelle decides on the study of a climate / energy contribution before validating its creation.

The choice between these two options will be formally submitted to the President of the Republic.

In any event, there is agreement on the principle of the fiscal neutrality of a possible climate / energy contribution: this cannot be new tax revenue and the conditions of equivalence and redistribution would have to be examined so as to respect companies' competitiveness and the buying power of households, in particular the least well-off.

The workgroup which examines the feasibility and conditions of implementation of the climate / energy contribution will have to submit its conclusions by Spring 2008 at the latest.

The main purpose of the general review of compulsory deductions will be to give an opinion on the technical conditions of a climate / energy contribution.

4. Obligation to carry out a carbon / energy / water / waste / transport audit for all public or private entities (of over 50 people and within 3 to 5 years).

A target of 20 to 30% energy efficiency improvement on the basis of the success of the first pilot programmes.

The technical measures tabled by group 1 relating to energy efficiency have been adopted:

- By 2010, removal from store shelves of the highest energy-consuming equipment;
- A ban on incandescent lights by 2010;
- Extension of energy labelling to include all high energy-consumption electrical appliances;
- Modification of regulations: position of low energy-consumption lighting systems;
- Progressive increase in the energy performance demands on appliances.

2 - Programme to promote renewable energies

Launch of a programme to develop the search for the right energy combination: hydraulic, wind, biomass, geothermal, photovoltaic and solar, to increase the production of renewable energy by 20 million tons by 2020:

- (reinforcement of the renewable energy development mechanism within a national agency)
- Biomass and renewable heat mobilisation plan (creation of a fund for renewable heat)
- National “solar buildings” plan (integrating the use of solar energy into construction)
- General review of the different sectors (wind, hydroelectricity, bio-fuels): support mechanism, ecological audit, etc... and the proposal of a promotion plan to encourage ecological excellence in the renewable energy sector
- Review of the multi-year investment programme for electricity production
- In DOM-COM overseas territories: a specific plan with an objective of [50%] share of renewable energy in final energy consumption by 2020.

Sector-based programmes to promote the energy independence of facilities:

- Farms (increasing the energy production potential of each farmer): [30% of farms self-sufficient in energy] by 2013;
- Major retail (development of solar energy systems).

Increase in research into new energy technologies, dedicated in particular to renewable energies and the storage of electricity to the same level as that applying to civil nuclear energy.

3 – Development programme for the capture and storage of carbon

Funding of the search for and recycling of captured carbon and on the energy performance of the use of fossil fuels.

Funding and framing of geological capture and storage of CO₂ pilots and validation of technological orientations.

4 – Disagreement on the nuclear issue

Programmes to control energy demand and develop renewable energies will lead to a mechanical reduction in the proportion of nuclear energy in the French energy supply overall.

Request of several participants (NGOs and workers) for greater transparency in the management of the nuclear programme, and in particular, technology transfers.

Disagreement between the parties on the exact role nuclear energy should play (in particular on continuation of the EPR reactor programme).

5 – In favour of a service economy

Research programme entrusted to Mr FOLZ and Mr BOURG to study experimentation - similar to certain Chinese research projects - into an economy which would separate the manufacture and transport of products from their use (e.g. Vélib) profoundly modifying the very design of products and the way manufacturers work. This programme would include a chapter on the eco-design of products.