



PRESS RELEASE

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E-fuels better focused on aviation and shipping rather than road – Ricardo report

A Ricardo report published today shows that the use of synthesized e-fuels should be prioritized for shipping and aviation ahead of road transport where other forms of electrification are more effective

The report, *Renewable electricity requirements to decarbonize transport in Europe with electric vehicles, hydrogen and electrofuels*, was produced on behalf of transport campaign group Transport & Environment. Its purpose is to investigate whether a number of potential decarbonization pathways are achievable within the limits of supply side constraints such as the renewable energy generation potential of the European Union.

The following were among the key messages for policy makers concerning specific modes of transport. Firstly, direct electrification should be the focus for road transport, wherever possible, as it is the most efficient path to decarbonization. Comparing different modes, road transport will decarbonize more rapidly than shipping and aviation to 2030, but to decarbonize shipping and aviation will require significantly more renewable electricity to produce the required levels of e-fuels by 2050 (projected to be 30 percent of the total). Policy decisions about zero-emission heavy-duty trucks in the early 2020s will have significant ramifications for electricity demand by 2030 and 2050. Small changes to the fuel mix of light road vehicles has a large impact on electricity requirements. Finally, the renewable electricity requirements to

decarbonize aviation are relatively insensitive to fuel choice because all scenarios considered rely heavily on e-kerosene as a synthesized liquid fuel.



Geert De Cock, electricity and energy manager at T&E, said: “The EU has the renewable electricity potential to achieve economy-wide decarbonisation, but the scale of the challenge should not be underestimated. The choices we make today could have massive repercussions on power demand in the future.”

Nick Ash, renewable fuels expert at Ricardo, added: “We’re proud to have been part of this project, as the research and report play an important role in helping to review the critical decisions that policy makers need to make today, if we are to realize the ambitions of a decarbonized transport sector by 2050. Ricardo is supporting governments and the private sector around the world through access to the scientifically robust information needed to understand how best to utilize electrification and e-fuels to develop clean, efficient products for global transport sectors.”

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

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