

A large, stylized illustration in shades of blue and green. It depicts various elements of energy and society: wind turbines, power lines, a factory, a person at a computer, a person walking, a building with a nuclear symbol, and a field of sunflowers. The illustration is partially obscured by a white curved shape on the left.

## ► EERA Policy WG meeting

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Online Call #8 – 30 September 2021

## ► Agenda

- 1) Welcome and approval of the minutes of last POL WG meeting (26.08.21)
- 2) Clean Energy Transition Partnership
- 3) Latest policy developments on the EU side:
  - a. EU Commission Strategic Foresight Report
  - b. Nuclear and gas to be excluded under NextGen EU green bonds
  - c. Switzerland status in Horizon Europe programme
  - d. ZEWT and BATT4EU SRIAs published
  - e. Plans on EU carbon removal scheme
- 4) Latest POL publications
- 5) Tour de table
- 6) EERA Strategy Working Group
- 7) SUPEERA Project
- 8) For your agendas
- 9) Consultations
- 10) AOB

## 1) Welcome and approval of the minutes



# ► 1. Draft minutes – POL WG 26.08.21



## POL WG meeting MINUTES

Date 26 August 2021  
Time 10:00 – 11:15 ~~hrs~~  
Location Zoom

### Participants

Alma Lambertini (EERA)	Lars Brückner (DTU)
Annemie Wyckmans (NTNU)	Maria Oksa (VTT)
Barbara Spanò (DTU)	Merce Almuni Calull (VITO)
Edoardo Genova (EERA)	Petter Støa (SINTEF)
Jay Sterling Gregg (DTU)	Raffaele Guerini (EERA)
Jana Kalivodova (CVREZ)	Rosita Zilli (EERA)
Karina Veum (TNO)	Tiina Koljonen (VTT)
Klaus Kubeczko (AIT)	Yelda Erden (METU)

### Agenda

Topics discussed
Welcome and approval of minutes
EERA Strategy Working Group – Report from the ASM & Next Steps
Clean Energy Transition Partnership
Latest policy developments on the EU side
SUPEERA Project
IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report WG1
Consultations – EERA's reply to the EU consultation "Digitalising the Energy Sector – EU Action Plan"
EUSEW Event "Beyond Technology: The Clean Energy Transition for climate-neutral, smart and beautiful cities and communities"
POL WG: Planned activities for the Autumn
AOB

### Links to useful documents

- [POL WG meeting PPT](#)



### Key Outcomes

#### Welcome and approval of minutes

Welcome and approval of June POL WG minutes: the minutes were approved without amendments.

#### EERA Strategy Working Group – Report from the ASM & Next Steps

The EERA Annual Strategy Meeting (ASM), which was held on 29 and 30 June, featured in-depth discussions on the three Task Forces and their objectives. More specifically:

**Task Force #1:** The main points related to TF#1 discussed during the EERA ASM were presented. Among these, there are the need to include biodiversity within the analysis and strengthen EERA's value proposition towards EC and MS/ACs by further exploring their needs. Next steps: Develop an action plan by October 2021.

**Task Force #2:** During the ASM, the concept of European Centre of Excellence (EUCoE) next to the one of EERA Centre of Excellence (~~ECCoE~~) was introduced. ~~ECCoEs~~ should be an intermediate step to become EUCoEs, with the former being an attainment possible for all JPs based on set KPIs and the latter depending on external elements (decision by EC and/or MS/ACs).

Next steps: Develop an action plan by October 2021.

**Task Force #3:** During the ASM, the concept of "Country Action Group" (CAGs) was introduced in order to better understand the specificities of each country. Although its introduction was welcomed, the concept needs better definition. The launch of TF#3 is foreseen for September 2021.

- If you are interested in joining, you are welcome to do so. Keep in mind it is a long-term activity and you will be asked to provide input and contribute during the meetings.

#### Clean Energy Transition Partnership

As the process is currently in the hands of Member States and EERA is not part of the discussion, we depend on intel from POL WG members.

- If you have good contacts in your MS that are part of the CETP, please share it with us.

#### Latest policy developments on the EU side

- "Fit for 55" Package:
  - Renewable Energy Directive: The EU-level target of renewable energy sources in the overall energy mix has been raised to at least 40% by 2030, from the previous 32%.
  - Energy Efficiency Directive: A higher target for reducing primary (39%) and final (36%) energy consumption by 2030 has been proposed.



## 2) Clean Energy Transition Partnership

*Keep Confidential*



## ► Clean Energy Transition Partnership



### 3) Latest EU policy developments





## ► EU Commission Strategic Foresight Report 2021

- Published on last 8 September 2021 – Link [here](#)
- Forward-looking perspective on the EU's capacity to act in the coming decades and frame of possible policy responses
- First biggest challenges: **climate change and other environmental concerns**, leading to an increase in risks ranging from migration pressure to food price shocks
- Next biggest challenges: **digital hyperconnectivity** and **technological transformations**, as well as pressures exerted on **democracy** and shifts in the global order including **demography**.
- 2020 focus: resilience in the aftermath of the global coronavirus pandemic.
- 2021 focus: the geopolitical dimension of resilience
- 2022 focus: a better understanding of the twinning of the green and the digital transitions and how they can reinforce each other, including through emerging technologies





## ► Recovery Plan's Green Bond financing

- In October, the EC will start issuing the first '**green**' **bonds** to finance its recovery fund 'Next Generation EU'
- The EU plans to cover at least 30% of the €800 billion coronavirus fund w/ them (global 'green' bond champion)
- The **taxonomy of green activities** will become the **basis** of the green bond standard → EC proposal last July, but now negotiations at MS/EP level expected to take several years
- Meanwhile → EC proposal to use an **existing framework based on the International Capital Market Association's green bond principles** to be valid for the six-year period of Next Generation EU
- **The financing of nuclear energy and gas projects will be excluded** from the green bond framework for the recovery fund
- Under 'Next Generation EU', MS could request funding for gas initiatives to transit toward a lower carbon footprint economy but under standard bonds financing
- The exclusion of nuclear and gas from the 'green' funding of the recovery fund could hamper its chances of becoming part of the EU taxonomy, with an assessment being carried out this autumn

## ► SWITZERLAND IN EU RESEARCH PROGRAMMES - UPDATE

- Switzerland and EU are **debating country's accession** to EU programmes, issue related to Cohesion Policy funds
- June 2021: decision made by the European Commission in June to **exclude** Switzerland from **Horizon Europe** and applying to future calls from the **European Research Council (ERC)**, **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MCSA)** and the **European Innovation Council (EIC)**
- September 2021 Switzerland **introduces funding scheme** to support Horizon Europe applicants:
  - With funding guaranteed by the government, Swiss partners are eligible to take part in the vast majority of Horizon calls for collaborative projects
  - Measures are temporary as Switzerland intends to join Horizon Europe as soon as possible

## ► EU plans for carbon dioxide removals certification scheme

- Following the adoption of the Climate Law earlier this year, **a second leg to the bloc's climate policy** is currently in the making → foreseen action include **plans to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere**
- The EC will publish a **policy paper** by the end of the year on “**the sustainable management of the carbon cycle**”
- The policy paper will be the first step towards an **EU-wide certification scheme for negative emissions coming from agriculture, forestry and other sources**, that will be tabled in 2022

## ► ZEWT and BATT4EU SRIAs published

- Two new HEU Partnerships, the Zero-Emission Waterborne Transport (ZEWT) Partnership and the Batteries European Partnership (BATT4EU), released their SRIAs.
- **ZEWT** will provide and demonstrate zero-emission solutions for all main ship types and services before 2030, through six parallel activities that will be active in the coming years: use of sustainable alternative fuels, electrification, energy efficiency, design and retrofitting, digital green, and ports
- **BATT4EU** aims at mobilising R&I resources to deliver on the next generation of sustainable batteries & tackling the low level of battery manufacturing in the EU, which hampers the possibilities to develop know-how, processes, skills and supply chains
- BATT4EU will follow six priority areas: raw materials and recycling; advanced materials and manufacturing; battery end-uses and applications; safety; sustainability; coordination

## 4) Latest POL publications



## ► Latest policy publications

- [Reply](#) to the EC consultation on the Digitalisation of the Energy System
- Publication of the [Policy Brief on the New Industrial Strategy](#) (SUPEERA)
- Drafting of the SUPEERA Policy Brief on the European Climate Law (SUPEERA)
- Finalisation of High-Level Policy recommendations in the EERA White Paper
- Finalisation of high-level statement on the “Fit for 55” legislative package
- [Comments](#) on Von der Leyen’s State of the Union speech

## 5) Tour de table



► What are members currently working on in their respective organizations, especially with relevance to the POL WG / EU agenda? Quick overview





## 7) SUPEERA Project



## ► 7.1 Status of the project

- Policy (Task 3.2): submitted the contribution to the project presentation at go/no go meeting with the EC
- Webinars:
  - 2 organised, 1 more to go before 2022
- Policy Briefs:
  - 1 published, 1 in the pipeline, 1 to go before 2022
- One more report in 2021, to be handed in in December

## ► 7.2 SUPEERA Webinar

- SUPEERA Webinar - 'Fit for 55' delivered: clean energy research meets societal change
- Date:
  - **December 2021**
- Topic: focusing the 'FF55' on social aspects, connected with the research challenges that can be developed from the proposals.
  - Continuous innovation support – “What mechanisms/instruments does 'FF55' offer to ensure continuous technological & social innovation from now until 2050?”
  - 'FF55' and SSH – EU Social Taxonomy? (extend the scope of the Taxonomy Regulation beyond environmentally sustainable economic activities to cover other sustainability objectives, such as social objectives)

## ► 7.3 Policy Briefs

- Policy Brief on the **European Climate Law**
  - First draft version soon-to-be finalised
  - To be submitted to the POL WG in the upcoming weeks
- Upcoming: Policy Brief on the **EU Adaptation Strategy**
  - To be published by the end of 2021

## 8) For your agendas



## ► EERA Events

Date	Topic
<b>5 – 6 Oct</b>	Second Workshop Energy Materials for Innovation – From lab to engineering - Online
<b>14 Oct</b>	Beyond technology: The Clean Energy Transition for climate-neutral, smart and beautiful cities (EUSEW extended programme) - Online
<b>20 Oct</b>	The Clean Energy Transition: From Vision to Reality (launch of CET White Paper) - Brussels & Online
<b>22 – 23 Nov</b>	First ORIENT-NM Workshop – Brussels & Online
<b>23 – 25 Nov</b>	Battery Innovation Days – Online
<b>7 Dec</b>	EERA JP Energy Storage PhD Days – Online

All upcoming events: <https://www.eera-set.eu/events.html>

## ► Other relevant events

Date	Topic
<b>25 – 29 Oct</b>	EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) – Online
<b>25 – 26 Nov</b>	SET Plan Conference 2021 – Bled, Slovenia & Online

## 9) Consultations





## ► Ongoing EC public consultations

Policy Topic	Stage	Deadlines	How
Climate change – restoring sustainable carbon cycles	Roadmap	07 October 2021	Submit feedback ( <a href="#">Link</a> )
CO2 emissions from shipping – encouraging the use of low-carbon fuels	Adopted Act	08 November 2021	Submit feedback ( <a href="#">Link</a> )
Climate Change – Updating the EU Emission Trading System (ETS)	Adopted Act	08 November 2021	Submit feedback ( <a href="#">Link</a> )
National Emission Reduction Targets (Effort Sharing Regulation) – Review based on 2030 climate target plan	Adopted Act	08 November 2021	Submit feedback ( <a href="#">Link</a> )
Low-emission vehicles – improving the EU's refuelling/recharging infrastructure	Adopted Act	18 November 2021	Submit feedback ( <a href="#">Link</a> )
EU Renewable Energy Use – Review	Adopted Act	18 November 2021	Submit feedback ( <a href="#">Link</a> )
EU Green Deal – Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism	Adopted Act	18 November 2021	Submit feedback ( <a href="#">Link</a> )
EU Green Deal – Revision of the Energy Taxation Directive	Adopted Act	18 November 2021	Submit feedback ( <a href="#">Link</a> )
Social Climate Fund – Supporting the EU's transition to a fully green economy	Adopted Act	18 November 2021	Submit feedback ( <a href="#">Link</a> )
EU energy efficiency directive (EED) – evaluation and review	Adopted Act	19 November 2021	Submit feedback ( <a href="#">Link</a> )

## 10) AOB





Thank you!

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