

Call for evidence: sustainability issues associated with liquid biofuels in UK transportation

The Royal Academy of Engineering is conducting a study, at the request of the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) and the Department for Transport (DfT), into the potential future use and sustainability of liquid biofuels used for transportation (taken here as light and heavy road vehicles, rail, shipping and aviation) in the UK. The study will focus on:

- What type and quantity of liquid biofuels can be expected to contribute to the UK's transport fuel mix across two time horizons
 - Up to 2030
 - Up to 2050
- The carbon footprint and wider sustainability issues (environmental, economic and social) associated with fuel production, supply and use
- The Life Cycle Assessment methodologies and standards that should be applied to assess both carbon footprint and other environmental impacts as well as other issues relating to economic and social sustainability.

The Academy welcomes submissions of evidence to this study that address the following questions:

Question 1: What types of liquid biofuels will contribute to the UK's transport energy system up to 2030 and 2050? Where possible, please give evidence on the production methods, supply chains, quantities and types of end use in transportation that can be expected, and any other alternative feedstock uses that could impact upon the quantities available for transport.

Question 2: What factors will need to be taken into account when assessing the carbon footprint and wider environmental, economic and social sustainability of these liquid biofuels?

Question 3: What Life Cycle Assessment methodologies have been applied to estimate environmental impacts of liquid biofuels in transport – both in the UK and internationally – and what strengths and weaknesses have these methodologies displayed? What methodologies have been applied to evaluate economic and social issues associated with liquid biofuels?

Question 4: What international standards exist for assessing the sustainability of liquid biofuels and which ones are most appropriate for the UK's transport sector and why?

Question 5: What impact have policy measures relating to liquid biofuels in the UK had to date and how effective have they been?

Other comments: Respondents are welcome to submit any other evidence they feel is relevant to the topic of this study not included in the above questions.

This is an open call for evidence and the Academy welcomes submissions from all interested stakeholders. The deadline for submissions is 2 May 2016.

All written evidence should be submitted to:

Dr Andrew Chilvers
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Further details on this study can be found in the Terms of Reference, [available here](#) (PDF). All questions and queries should also be directed to the above address. Please also share this call for evidence within your relevant networks.