



| [contact](#)

- [home](#)
- [about IWF](#)
- [research areas](#)
- [campus](#)
- [inkwell blog](#)
- [women for school choice](#)
- [about our children](#)
- [scholars](#)
- [media](#)
- [policy papers](#)
- [newsletters](#)
- [events](#)
- [RSS feeds](#)
- [donate](#)

DONATE

Independent Women's Forum
 4400 Jenifer St. Suite 240
 Washington, DC 20015
 ph 202.419.1820
 fax 202.419.1821



INKWELL

Rethinking Biofuels



by Nicole Kurokawa
April 13, 2010, 12:19pm

Maybe there's hope for Europe yet: the European Union may actually change course on one of its "green" policies, given new evidence that such a target may actually prove harmful. (Isn't it refreshing when governments acknowledge [data](#) when making big decisions?) Specifically, the EU is considering altering its biofuels target in light of a new report.

From the [EU Observer](#):

The European Commission is under pressure to alter EU-wide agreed targets of replacing 10 percent of fossil fuels with renewable energy by 2020, as its own internal studies have proven that biofuels have a negative impact on the environment and food production.

EU energy commissioner Guenther Oettinger is considering a re-think of policies towards spurring the use of biofuels gained from crops such as rapeseed and palm oil, as they can lead to mass deforestation and food supply disruptions, Financial Times Deutschland reports.

Parts of the internal study were published by the EU executive at the end of last month, amid growing pressure from MEPs and environmental groups.

It continued to make the case for biofuels, but capped the "sustainability" level at 5.6 percent of traditional fossil fuels, suggesting that a higher percentage would harm the environment and endanger food crops, as they would compete for the same farm land.

Let's not forget, though: the Cato Institute's Pat Michaels [warned](#) about this unintended consequence several years ago. Ah, if only more people listened to scientists, instead of [trying to silence them](#)...

Comment on this post:

Name:

Email:

URL:

Remember Me

Comments:

[< IWF in the News: A... | Main](#)

ARTICLE TOOLS

print [send to a friend](#)



FOLLOW IWF ON TWITTER



RECENT POSTS

Inkwell Blog

[What Else is Hidden in the Health Care law?](#)

The best protection for nursing women is a dynamic and flexible work environment that allows women and their employers the most room to negotiate.

Campus Corner

[IWF in the News: A Move Toward Common Sense on Title IX](#)

At a time when every major bill coming out of Congress seems to push 2,000-plus pages, it is easy to forget that arguably the most sweeping and contro...

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES

Enter your email address

Follow IWF:

©2010 Independent Women's Forum. All Rights Reserved.