

EBB Press Release

The EU biodiesel industry welcomes the regulations extending the "B99" measures against US biodiesel imports



EU Regulations 2015/1518 and 2015/1519 were published today in the EU Official Journal, extending both the anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duties on US biodiesel imports for an additional period of 5 years.

The European Biodiesel Board (EBB), representing the major biofuels producing industry in the EU, welcomes today's publication of a 5-year extension of the so-called "B99" measures. This comes as the successful conclusion of a 12-months long investigation initiated by the European Commission upon EBB's expiry review request, lodged in April 2014.

EU biodiesel producers have committed significant efforts to build a world-class leading production capacity. Over the past years, however, they have been unable to fully reap the benefits of their work due to the devastating effects of successive waves of unfair US competition. The original "B99" complaint was first lodged in 2008, resulting in the imposition of anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures for 5 years, starting in July 2009. Duties were then circumvented via Canada, which led to the imposition of anti-circumvention measures in 2011. Upon the expiration of the original B99 duties in July 2014, the EBB – fearful of the recurrence of injury to the EU biodiesel producers due to incessant nature of US subsidisation – asked for their extension.

"The publication of Regulations 2015/1518 and 2015/1519 is the outcome of EBB's hard work, dedicated to demonstrating that the US industry has benefitted from favourable taxation policy, at both Federal and State levels, for many years. Ever since the 1\$/gallon biodiesel tax credit was first implemented in the US legislation a decade ago, it never ceased to play a key role in the scaling up of the US biodiesel production and securing it a significant advantage. Even though the tax credit kept expiring several times, the US authorities have established a tradition of reinstating the tax credit in a retroactive manner as part of the so-called 'tax extenders package' policy" - said EBB Secretary General, Raffaello Garofalo.

The EU authorities could not be delivered a better confirmation of the righteousness of their decision to prolong the B99 duties than the U.S. Senate Finance Committee's vote held back in July 2015. In fact the approval of the most recent tax extenders package made it crystal clear that the draft of the bill, extending the \$1/gal biodiesel tax credit through 2016, is well progressing through the US legislative pipeline.

EBB will remain vigilant in its commitment to ensure that the EU biodiesel producers benefit from a level-playing field. Moreover, EBB will not hesitate to take decisive action to thwart any attempt to circumvent the measures entering into force tomorrow.

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European Biodiesel Board (EBB) is a non-profit organisation established in January 1997. Today, EBB gathers nearly 80 members across 21 Member-States, which represents 75% of the European output. Biodiesel is the main European solution to reduce emissions from transport and dependence on imported oil. EBB aims to promote the use of biodiesel in the European Union and is committed to fulfil International standards for sustainability in GHG emissions and sustainable feedstock. EBB is constantly working towards the development of improved and greener technologies.