



PRESS RELEASE

AEA wins contract to coordinate studies into the indirect effects of biofuels

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AEA Technology (AEA) a leading energy and environmental consultancy, has been awarded a contract to coordinate two studies for the Renewable Fuels Agency (RFA) as part of their review into the indirect effects of biofuels.

Ruth Kelly, the Secretary of State for Transport, announced on 21 February that the Renewable Fuels Agency would lead a study of the wider economic and environmental impacts, particularly the indirect impacts, of different forms of biofuel production. The results of the study will help inform the development of both the UK and EU's policies in this area and will underpin the consideration of EU biofuel targets after 2010.

As part of the Review, AEA will coordinate studies into two areas: The drivers of land use change, which will include the current and anticipated drivers and demand for land and feedstock; and a review of future demand and supply of biofuels to 2020 and their impact upon greenhouse gas emissions.

Robert Bell, AEA's Operations Director said "There has been a lot of debate recently about the risks and benefits of biofuels. Biofuels do have the potential to help reduce the impact of transport on the environment, provided they are sustainable. We also need to ensure that the latest scientific evidence about the environmental effects of biofuel production is also taken into account.

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Notes to Editors:

AEA Technology is one of the world's leaders in the field of climate change and energy consultancy - operating in the UK, Europe, the US and China. It is the leading provider of advisory services to the UK Government and works extensively with the EU and major private sector organisations. With internationally renowned expertise in air quality and climate change, carbon management, resource efficiency and the environmental impacts of transport, AEA employs many world leading experts and provides a high-level of policy consultancy and a range of technical services to its public and private sector clients.

In October 2007, AEA was voted by environmental consultancy customers across the UK, as Best Consultancy for Climate Change and Renewables at the prestigious EDIE Awards.

For more information please go to www.aeat.com

The Renewable Fuels Agency is a Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB) which has been established to administer the Government's Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation (RTFO) and to report to Ministers and to Parliament on its impacts. The RFA has a Board of Directors under the chairmanship of Professor Ed Gallagher, formerly the Chief Executive of the Environment Agency. Details via <http://www.dft.gov.uk/rfa>