

## Task 34

### Direct Thermochemical Liquefaction of Biomass

2<sup>nd</sup> Task 34 Meeting Triennium 2025-2027  
June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026 09:00 – 17:00 at BEST in Austria

#### Recognition of Meeting Participants

|                    |       |                              |
|--------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| Bert van de Beld   | (BvB) | NTL The Netherlands          |
| Alexandra Böhm     | (AB)  | Task Manager (Minutes)       |
| Daniele Castello   | (DC)  | NTL Denmark                  |
| Francois Collard   | (FC)  | NTL New Zealand (online)     |
| Jean Henry Ferasse | (JHF) | NTL France                   |
| Axel Funke         | (AF)  | Task Lead/ NTL Germany       |
| Murlidhar Gupta    | (MG)  | NTL Canada                   |
| Christian Lindfors | (CL)  | NTL Finland (online)         |
| Bhanu Prasad       | (BP)  | Alternate NTL India (online) |
| Manuel Schwabl     | (MS)  | NTL Austria                  |
| Michael Thorson    | (MT)  | NTL United States            |

#### ExCo

The audit was completed with only a limited number of questions.

The budget transfer from the US is currently difficult, but a solution is expected to be found. Task 34 internal transfer of funds to PNNL is still not possible at this stage due to organizational barriers.

Eric van de Heuvel (IEA Bioenergy Technical Coordinator) appears to set a focus on social media, fact sheets, YouTube and policy-related messages.

A new IEA Bioenergy website will be developed, where all Task websites will be presented in one place. Content management of individual Task sites will still be responsibility of the respective Tasks. The structure of IEA Bioenergy Tasks has been thoroughly reviewed and discussed, including all Task leads. One outcome was to keep current task scopes and number, but at the same time to introduce three major themes: 1) Scaling sustainable biomass supply 2) Advancing bioenergy conversion technology 3) Markets, system integration, and governance of bioenergy. One of these is primary alignment for a task (Task 34 in theme 2), the other two secondary. The major aim of this superposed structure is to ease clear communication to outside IEA Bioenergy.

#### Work Packages

##### 1.2 Use of by-products

The draft of the HTL part is available.

Hydrochars and biochars are being compared with European standards. The data will be collected in an Excel sheet. This will form the basis for the deliverable concerning chars.

AF will write the section on Biochar FP. MS will contribute the remaining parts. Gas components are still missing in the section from MS. The timeline foresees a draft by the end of September.

### **1.3 Aqueous phase / Water management in HTL and upgrading**

The data is available and implementation will take place after completion of WP 1.2.

DCs colleague will prioritise WP 1.3 from now on. A first draft is planned for September; current progress is estimated at around 10%.

### **2.1 FP of non woody, biogenic feedstock**

Work has started; further details still need to be discussed, including summaries and main conclusions.

CL will contribute to this work. An online meeting will be organised to discuss the structure. The WP description should be checked again and a revised version may be provided by BvB.

### **2.2 Mobile and small scale FP units**

Work has started on the Aspen simulation & TEA. The contract between Canmet and KIT, based on an offer from Canmet, is expected in July. AB will prepare the order creation process on KIT's side. This topic also fits well into the IEA Bioenergy context, particularly with regard to the ITP about socio-economic aspects. MG will follow up the contact with this ITP.

## **Task Organisation**

### **1) Budget**

There is an uncommitted budget of USD 44,649 due to France becoming a country member and less than expected expenditures for e.g. WP 1.1.

The accepted proposal is to reserve USD 10,000 for unexpected expenses, such as currency conversion fees and other unforeseen costs.

Approximately USD 30,000 will be allocated to additional work packages pending full transfer of all outstanding membership fees.

### **2) Additional Work Packages**

JHF, as a new Task member, will propose an additional work package, including a work package description. AB will send him a WP description as a template.

JHF's idea is to focus either on inorganics in liquids or on phosphorus in HTL.

MG will clarify within CanmetENERGY whether the WP about AI models is still of interest.

This topic could also be suitable as an additional work package.

Furthermore, the planned Technical Notes could also be addressed using part of the uncommitted budget (gas metering, quench media, FPBO stability).

### **3) Webinars**

AF emphasised the importance of webinars within IEA Bioenergy.

[addition to the minutes, not discussed in the meeting]:

The following webinar topics were suggested during the last Task Meeting:

- Round Robin
- Flexible energy supply
- Commercial update
- Aqueous phase management in HTL

Due to time constraints, the webinar topic selection will be coordinated by email. AB will follow up with the NTLs.

### **4) Website**

As AB has not yet received all revised pages and further work is still required, a second workshop on the website will be organised. AB will follow up on this.



5) **PyNe**

AB will contact the NTLs directly to ask for articles for the upcoming PyNe issues.  
PyNe 59 has already enough articles.