

ESPP workshop: Algae, wastes and the circular economy

Regulatory status of algae and biomass grown using waste or animal by-products



Wednesday 13th November 14h00 - 18h30, Brussels & online.

Atelier29, rue Jacques de Lalaing 29, Bruxelles. Metro: Maelbeek, Schuman, Train: Brussels Luxembourg

Updated programme, information and **registration** www.phosphorusplatform.eu/legalworkshop

Onsite participation = 50€ + VAT (contribution to organisation costs). Online participation: free.

Objectives:

- discuss the legal analysis proposed by Barry Love, Environmental Law Chambers, accredited specialist in environmental law.
The legal analysis is available [here](#), under the chapter "EU End-of-Waste status for materials recovered from waste waters".
- Identify, with policy makers, industry and experts, significant regulatory obstacles and questions susceptible to hinder circularity (nutrient recycling, carbon sinkage) in algae production and use of biomass for wastewater treatment
- discuss how to address these in the context of developing the green and blue circular economy, ensuring health and environmental safety and downstream confidence.

Programme

13h45: Welcome coffee, Sicilian juices and cakes

14h00 - 14h30: Context and perspectives for algae in the circular economy

- *Chris Thornton, ESPP* (5 min): opening and welcome, why wastes are important inputs to algae production (nutrients, CO₂), use of algae/biomass to purify wastewaters or gases
- *Maris Stulgis, European Commission, DG MARE* (10 min): EU Algae Initiative, Blue Bioeconomy, and their relevance to EU circular economy objectives
- *Carlos Unamunzaga, President, EABA (European Algae Biomass Association)* (5 mins): Growth of algae production for different applications, importance of nutrient inputs, potential for CO₂ fixing.
- EU-funded R&D projects (10 min): innovation and market perspectives for valorisation of algae from wastewaters and digestates.
 - *Marcella Fernandes de Souza, University of Ghent*, [SEMPRE-Bio](#) and [ALG-AD](#)
 - *Efthalia Arvaniti, Sustainable Projects GmbH*, [EU4Algae](#), [AlgaeProBanos](#)
- *Soufiane Hsina, Ciments du Maroc* (5 min): algae/biomass for CO₂ fixing or pollution removal from industrial offgases

14h30 - 15h30: Regulatory aspects of waste status, sewage, wastewater

- *Barry Love SPECIALIST IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW* (20 min) - outline of the legal analysis concerning waste and wastewaters
- Questions and discussion - 40 min

15h30 - 16h00: Break, networking, coffee

16h00 - 17h00: Manure, food waste, animal feed

- *Barry Love SPECIALIST IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW* (10 min) - outline of the legal analysis concerning animal by-products (inc. manures, food waste)
- Questions and discussion - 20 min
- *Barry Love SPECIALIST IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW* (10 min) - outline of the legal analysis concerning use in animal feed
- Questions and discussion - 20 min

17h00 - 17h30: Conclusions and next steps

- Identifying and prioritising regulatory questions. How to realistically address these, whilst ensuring health and safety and value-chain confidence.

17h30 - 18h30: Sicilian wines, juices and snacks. Networking and informal discussion