

Environment Working Group Minutes

Thursday 16 February 2023, 10:30 – 12:30
Via MS Teams

1. WELCOME, MEETING CONDUCT AND COMPETITION LAW COMPLIANCE

- The meeting was chaired by Dr Nicholas Head (NH), Environmental & Sustainability Lead at XPO Logistics, who welcomed members.
- Denise Beedell (DB) reminded members about the competition law compliance guidance and to avoid sharing any sensitive information that is currently not in the public domain.

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

- The minutes of the last meeting held on 29 September 2022 were agreed.
- All matters arising were completed or ongoing.

3. PROJECT RAPID AND THE RAPID CHARGING FUND (RCF)

Bex Allen, Engagement Lead for Project Rapid/RCG and Yusuf Yenitirkogullari, Policy Advisor for Project Rapid/RCF at the Office of Zero Emission Vehicle (OZEV), and Tom Froggatt, Policy Advisor, Road Freight Decarbonisation at the Department for Transport (DfT) gave a presentation on Project Rapid and the RCF and took questions from members. The discussions covered:

- Charging anxiety remains a main barrier.
- Motorway service areas (MSAs) will each have 6 rapid chargers by the end of 2023, which will be delivered by the private sector. OZEV are working with National Highways, the MSA operators and Distribution Network Operators (DNOs).
- Access to chargepoints must be open access.
- Important to ensure adequate power supply at the chargepoints and chargepoints are reliable.
- Space also needs to be sufficient for the largest vans.
- Yet to decide on whether to include HGVs in a pilot scheme – OZEV are seeking industry insight.
- Currently there is no clearance for HGVs to be included in the RCF.
- Grid connections will need to be considered – megawatt charging must be the standard.
- Industry support will be key when developing infrastructure policy.
- Various solutions being considered, but fiscal challenges are delaying progress.
- HGV chargepoints must be available to coincide with planned driver breaks. Engagement with industry essential to understand the practicalities.

After the speakers had left the meeting, a further discussion took place. Comments from members included:

- Disappointment at no information about the delayed low carbon fuels (LCF) strategy – members expressed concern that operator's current experience of using LCFs has not been sought.
- Uncertainty about when winners in the Zero Emission Road Freight Trials will be announced.
- General agreement that the roll out of everything in this space needs to be accelerated.
- Concern that the government seems to be rowing back on the RCF.

ACTION: DB to circulate OZEV slides to members when received.

4. EV REPORT 2023

DB appraised members of the initial headline findings of research undertaken in December 2022 and January 2023. A range of policy asks were set out and comments requested:

- General support for the findings.
- Query about funding – this is included in our Budget Submission to HM Treasury (HMT) and has been included in discussions with the shadow team.
- Logistics UK will be responding to manifestos.

- Logistics UK has reached out to HMT for a meeting on net zero and will invite members.
- Legislation is required around chargepoints regarding reliability and delays in installing.
- There is crossover with planning policy – there must be an emphasis on avoiding delays and barriers.

The report will be published in late Spring and members will receive electronic copies.

5. ENVIRONMENT AND UK PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

DB flagged key environment and UK public policy activities referenced in the meeting papers covering:

- Budget submission has four themes with asks around low carbon fuels and capital allowances (see page 8 and annex in page 16 in meeting papers)
- Low carbon fuels strategy is still delayed. A briefing note has been produced and is available on the website (see link in item on page 9). There were comments on the cost of LCFs, whether LCFs will be seen as transitional fuels, vehicle life cycle perspective, recognition that industry is 24 years away from a full transition and LCFs emit only a small amount of NOx they should be counted as Zero Emission

ACTION: DB to recirculate Logistics UK's LCF strategy consultation response.

6. ELECTRIC VEHICLE OPERATING COSTS IN THE MANAGER'S GUIDE

Proposals about changes to the Manager's Guide to Distribution Costs to include vehicle operating cost information on electric vans in the Guide were set out with a request for feedback.

ACTION: Members to submit comments to DB on the proposals by end of February.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Next meeting format – discussion about holding online, physical or hybrid meetings. Agreed that at least one meeting should be online.

ACTION: NH and DB will discuss format of next meeting.

- Carbon accounting – consider as a speaker topic for a future meeting.

Next meetings:

Thursday 15 June, 10:30 – 12:30 via Teams.

Thursday 14 September, 10:30 – 12:30/13:00 – format to be confirmed.

Meeting finished at 12:35

ATTENDEES

Chair

Dr Nicholas Head

XPO Logistics

Speakers

Rebecca Allen

Tom Froggatt

Yusuf Yenitirkogullari

Engagement Lead for Project Rapid/Rapid Charging Fund, OZEV

Policy Advisor, Road Freight Decarbonisation, DfT

Policy Advisor for Project Rapid/Rapid Charging Fund, OZEV

Members

Tutu Akinkoye

Kevin Barcroft

Patrick Boruffka

Anthony Deus

Claire Evans

David Flood

Nick Graham

Gary Greenway

Norman Harding

Catherine Hughes

Philip Hunting

Justin Laney

Stuart McLean

Katie Molloy

Sunny Pawar

Anna Rickard

Neil Robinson

Lucie Rowley

David Smith

Jennifer Stanley

James Taylor

Steve Tainton

Mark Weatherbed

David Wilson

DHL Supply Cha

Supatrak

Thames Water

Lancashire Police

Zenith

GXO

Stobart

BCA

LB Hackney

CEVA Logistics Ltd

Royal Borough of Greenwich

John Lewis Partnership

TRL

Bidfood

Kuhne+Nagel

Howard Tenens Logistics Ltd

Tyson H Burrridge

EVRI

CPA

Amazon UK

Co-op

Wincanton

Delta Group

Fleet Technology Ltd

Logistics UK Staff

Denise Beedell (Secretary)

Michelle Gardner

Kate Jennings

Jonas Keat

Phil Roe

Alex Williams

Public Policy Manager

Deputy Director - Policy

Director of Policy

Policy Advisor

President

Economic Analyst