

Productivity and environmental tax reform in Europe (petrE)

Final Minutes of Teleconference Meeting

27 September 2007

Present:

PSI: Paul Ekins (PE), Roger Salmons (RS), Ben Shaw (BS), Paolo Agnolucci (PA), Andrew Venn (AV)

CE: Sudhir Junankar (SJ), Phillip Summerton (PSu), Hector Pollitt (HP)

GWS: Christian Lutz (CL), Bernd Meyer (BM)

SERI: Stefan Giljum (SG)

UEP: Jaroslav Klusák (JK)

FU: Roland Zieschank (RZ)

Apologies

CE: Hector Pollitt (HP)

FU: Martin Jänicke (MJ)

SERI: Stefan Speck (SS)

UEP: Petr Sauer (PS),

1. Welcome and introduction

PE chaired the meeting and welcomed all partners. A copy of the agenda is provided in Annex I.

2. Administrative issues

PE and the partners formally thanked RS for his involvement in the petrE project, and wished him well in his new job. PE introduced BS who will be taking over the project management from RS. PE noted his move to Kings College London, noting that he will remain fully involved in petrE, and will continue to lead the project.

3. Workpackage updates

WP1

WP1A

PA reported that work on the WP is proceeding according to schedule. The first paper produced on the workpackage, which assesses the nature of the difference among energy intensities in a number of UK and German industrial subsectors, has been completed. Similarly, work on the second paper is also approaching completion. The paper presents an estimation of the energy demand for UK and German industrial subsectors by using a number of panel data estimators.

WP1B

AV reported that the WP1B paper had been completed, and would be made ready for presentation at the AGF conference in Berlin in November 2007.

WP1C

PE reported that a working paper is ready for internal peer review. **PE agreed** to send the paper to Roland. It was noted that GHK/CE data may be useful to GWS for modelling purposes. **HP agreed** to forward a note on the usefulness of the data and how it may fit into WP1C

WP2

Work on this workpackage is somewhat behind schedule mainly due to the recent staff changes at PSI. Collection of the data for the UK and Germany is approaching completion. The workpackage is envisaged to be taken forward after completion of the WP1.

WP3

Work undertaken so far

GWS has provided a technical paper on GINFORS (WP3.1)

CE has produced a technical scoping report on extending E3ME to incorporate material flows

GWS has provided a starting point for the literature review to be undertaken jointly in WP3

CE has produced a technical paper on E3ME (WP3.2)

GWS has produced a comparison paper summarising the main differences and similarities between GINFORS and E3ME (WP3.3)

GWS has produced a comprehensive literature review (WP3.4)

CE has given feedback on the comparison of models paper (WP 3.3)

CE and GWS have produced a final paper describing the differences between E3ME and GINFORS

CE and GWS: broad agreement on baselines

CE and GWS: broad scenario outline

Work started but not yet complete

CE is working on a literature review to contrast with GWS (WP 3.4)

CE and GWS: detailed specification of scenarios

Work to start after the Mid-term event

CE and GWS: Finalise scenarios (WP3.5)

CE and GWS: Begin modelling work

Overall WP3 is running on schedule although the bulk of the analysis will take place as the modelling starts in early 2008 and the results are thoroughly assessed.

WP4

Stefan Speck Update:

“During the recent months a literature search about the current status of ETRs in CEEC has been carried out. The most advanced countries are Estonia and the Czech Republic as the former already implemented an ETR and the latter one is in the progress of implementation. Contacts to researchers in the two countries have been established and the latest information is currently compiled. Furthermore, the most current situation in Germany and the UK is studied, in particular assessing the trend of revenues accrued from energy taxes introduced as part of the ETR in the past.

A paper assessing the concepts of the ETRs implemented in the two new EU Member States and comparing these ETR approaches with the ETRs of Germany and the UK will be available for the November meeting. Furthermore, the future development of ETRs will be studied in the context of climate policy efforts and goals of reducing overall energy consumption.”

WP5

Stefan Giljum update:

“In the past weeks, work in WP5 has focused on the construction of the global trade-environment model, which will be used to assess natural resources embodied in European imports and exports. SERI has delivered the final data set on resource extraction in all countries of the world to GWS and GWS integrated the data set into the multi-regional input-output model, which links IO tables and international trade data. First results of the model calculations have been delivered from GWS to SERI by mid-September and the data is currently being analyzed. Next steps include further analysis and interpretation of results and the preparation of illustrations, which will be incorporated in the paper presented at the AGF mid-term event in November.

The underlying methodological background paper, which will soon be published as a petrE Working Paper, has been presented at two conferences: the conference of the European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE) in Leipzig in June 2007 and the conference of the International Input-Output Association in July 2007.

Work is also ongoing in the update of the global material flow data set to be integrated into the GINFORS model for the scenario modeling in WP 3. The updated data set (comprising the time span from 1980 to 2005) will be sent to GWS by the end of 2007.

SERI has also continued to screen possible data sources for resource / commodity **prices**. The most likely suggestion will be to purchase the data set by the Hamburg Institute for International Economics. A detailed suggestion will be sent by SERI within the next days, when the costs of purchasing a multi-user license have been clarified.”

4. Future meetings / events

4a.

PE noted that he would be presenting at the 8th Global Conference on Environmental Taxation in October 2007.

4b.

The meeting schedule was reiterated:

Wed 28 November 2007	Berlin, Partner Meeting and Dinner (start 9.30am – to be confirmed)
Thu 29 November 2007	Berlin, Advisory Council Meeting (start 9.30am – to be confirmed)
Thu 29 November 2007	Berlin, Policy Debate and Reception (start 3.00pm)
Fri 30 November 2007	Berlin, Research Conference and Dinner (start 9.00am)

PE requested a statement from each project partner listing the issues to be discussed at the partner meeting.

4c.

AV agreed to send the Advisory Council meeting invite to David Gee again. Nils Axel Braathen attendance has been confirmed. No other Advisory Council members will be attending.

4d.

CE agreed to suggest a different speaker than RZ for Session III, as RZ/FFU are not working on the micro-level of management practices in companies. In the meanwhile, Regina Vogel contacted Bernd Meyer who agreed to formulate some comments

It was also agreed that abstracts would be sent to Regina Vogel by 15 October, with full papers to be sent by 30 October.

AV agreed to collate hotel requirements from petrE partners and make reservations via AGF.

4e.

PE noted that he would be attending the Mid Point policy debate at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office in London on 5th December 2007.

5. Any other business

PE noted that the EEA tender had been submitted and thanked petrE partners for their work in helping this application. PE agreed to keep partners updated on the tender application progress.

**Andy Venn
Policy Studies Institute
December 2007**

Annex I - Agenda

**Teleconference
Thursday 27 September 2007, 9.00am (UK time)**

Agenda

1. Welcome and introduction (PSI – PE)
2. Administrative issues (PSI – PE)
 - a) Formal approval of Year 1 petrE report
 - b) Staff changes (farewell to Roger, Paul's move); Change of management, welcome to Ben Shaw
3. Work-packages
 - a) Updates, work-plan changes and other issues
 - WP1 (PSI – PA/PE)
 - WP2 (PSI – PA)
 - WP3 (CE / GWS)
 - WP4 (SERI / UEP)
 - WP5 (SERI / GWS)
4. Future meetings / events (PSI – PE)
 - a) 8th Global Conference on Environmental Taxation, October 2007
 - b) Partner meeting, Berlin November 2007
 - c) Advisory Council meeting, Berlin November 2007
 - d) AGF mid-term event, Berlin November 2007
 - e) London meeting, December 5th 2007
5. Any other business

PE

25.9.07