

# A pathway for EU deep-decarbonization from a technology perspective

A preview of the POTEnCIA CETO 2025 Scenario

Speaker: Moritz Wegener

Authors: Moritz Wegener, Marc Jaxa-Rozen, Mate Rozsai, Raffaele Salvucci, Przemyslaw Sikora, Juan Gea-Bermudez, Frederik Neuwahl

European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC), Seville, Spain

17 October 2025  
ECEMP 2025

# Agenda

- Methodology:
  - The POTEnCIA model
  - The POTEnCIA CETO 2025 scenario
- Scenario results:
  - Energy system overview
  - Selected technology pathways
- Discussion & conclusion



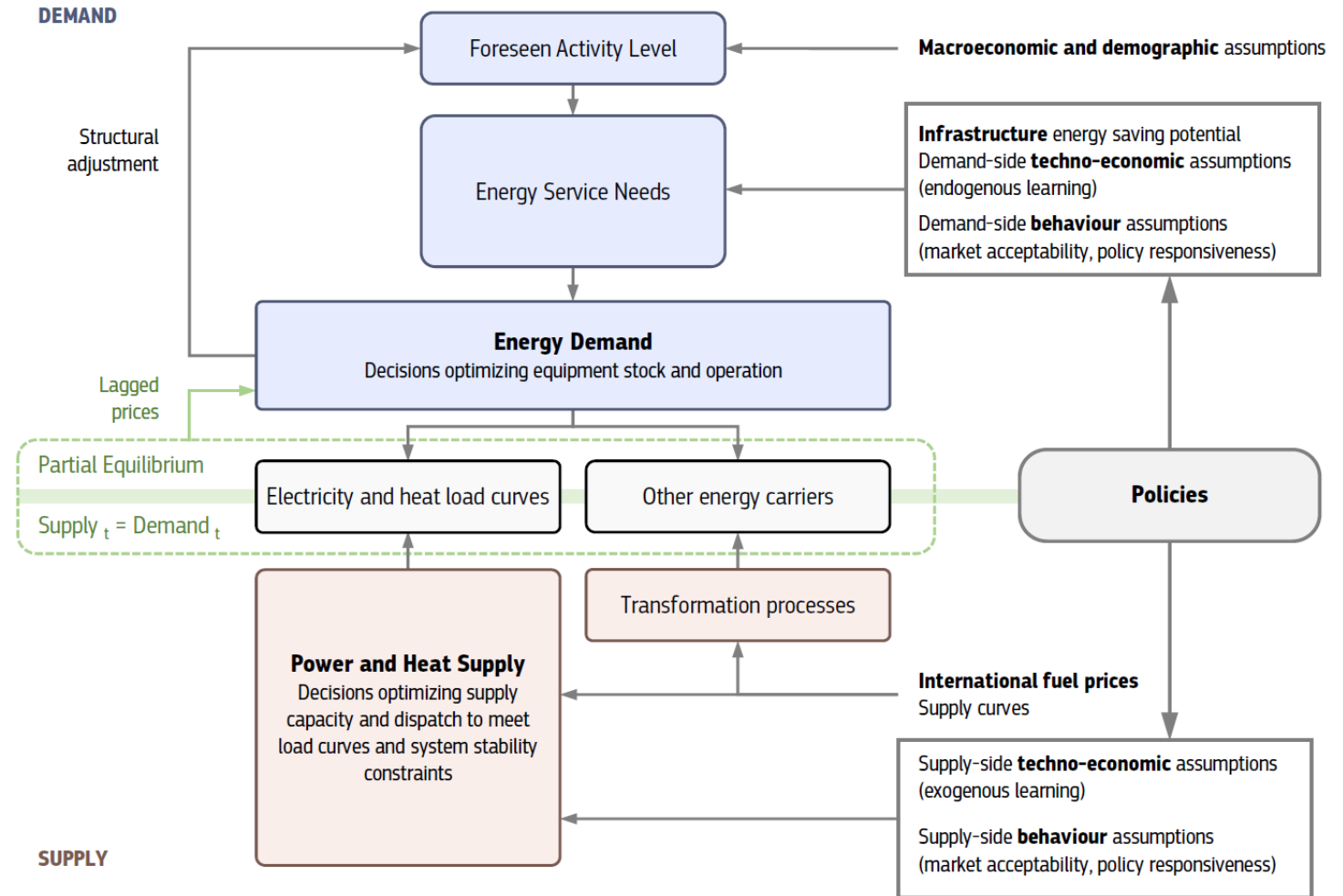
# Agenda

- Methodology:
  - The POTEnCIA model
  - The POTEnCIA CETO 2025 scenario
- Scenario results:
  - Energy system overview
  - Selected technology pathways
- Discussion & conclusion



# The POTEnCIA Model

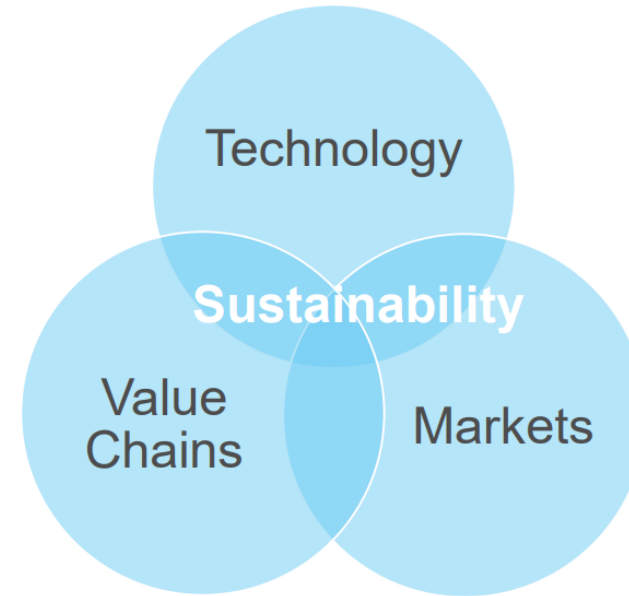
- JRC's in-house developed "Policy Oriented Tool for Energy and Climate Change Impact Assessment"
- Hybrid partial equilibrium model of the EU energy system
- Resolution:
  - Individual Member States
  - Yearly time steps, up to 2070
  - Hourly electricity dispatching throughout the whole year
- Historical data calibration based on JRC-IDEES<sup>1</sup>



# The Clean Energy Technology Observatory - CETO

- **Stakeholders:** CETO, the Clean Energy Technology Observatory<sup>1</sup>, is a collaboration between the JRC, DG RTD, and DG ENER
- **Objective:** Monitoring the status of EU clean energy technologies across value chains, markets, and their future prospects
- **Output:** Publication of annual technology reports (e.g. electrolyzers, photovoltaics, heat pumps)
- **Interaction with POTEnCIA:** Technology insights used as input for scenario development to then provide scenario projections of future technology deployment in the EU

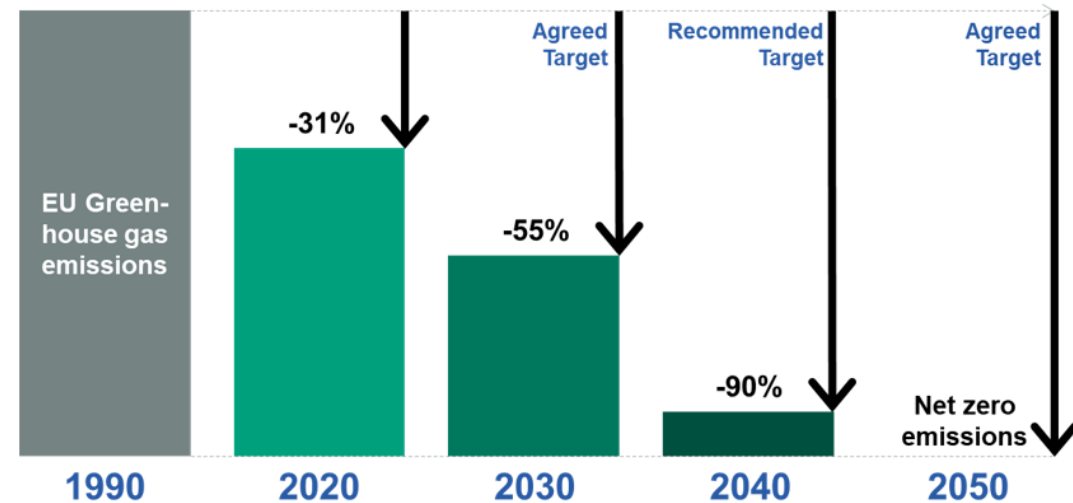
→ **Dedicated, technology-driven POTEnCIA CETO 2025 Scenario<sup>2</sup>**



# The POTEnCIA CETO 2025 Scenario

- Calibrated to **IDEES23**
- Inclusion of latest **NECP targets**
- **Technology assumptions** based on:
  - **CETO research**
  - **EC communication on a 2040 climate target (CT2040)** and its Impact Assessment
- **Policy framework:**
  - GHG emissions **aligned with ECL** and the **2040 proposed target**
  - High detail modelling of **relevant policy framework** (such as ETS & ETS2, ESR, EED, RED III, CO2 emission standards for new vehicles, FuelEU Maritime, ReFuelEU Aviation,...)

**Figure 2.** EU emission targets in the *POTEnCIA CETO 2025 Scenario*



**Table 1.** CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Standards for New Vehicles

VEHICLE TYPE	2025-2029	2030-2034	2035-2039	2040- ONWARDS
CARS	-25%	-55%	-100%	-100%
LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES	-17%	-50%	-100%	-100%
HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLES <sup>4</sup>	-15%	-45%	-65%	-90%

# Agenda

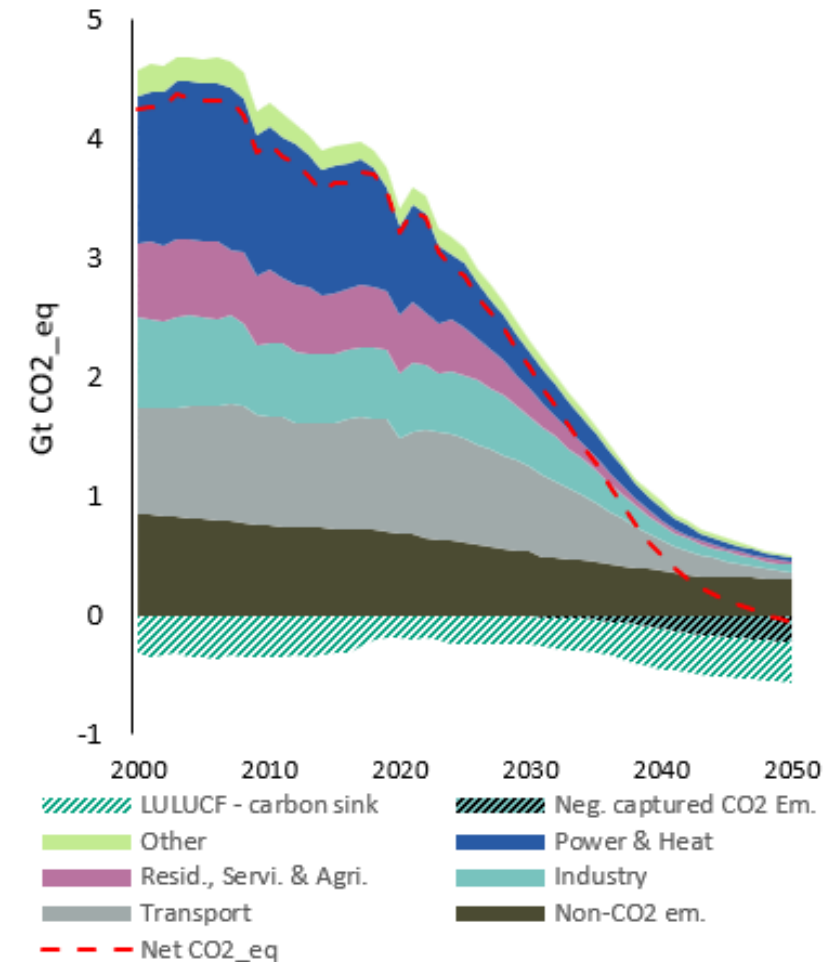
- Methodology:
  - The POTEnCIA model
  - The POTEnCIA CETO 2025 scenario
- Scenario results:
  - Energy system overview
  - Selected technology pathways
- Discussion & conclusion



# EU Emissions

- **Decarbonization** needs to:
  - Accelerate in end demand sectors
  - Continue with same trend for power & heat
- By 2050, **residual emissions** remain in
  - Aviation & maritime
  - Most industries
  - Agriculture (esp. non-CO<sub>2</sub>)
- Those are **off-set by carbon removals**, primarily from BECCS application

**Figure 7.** EU emissions overview<sup>13</sup>

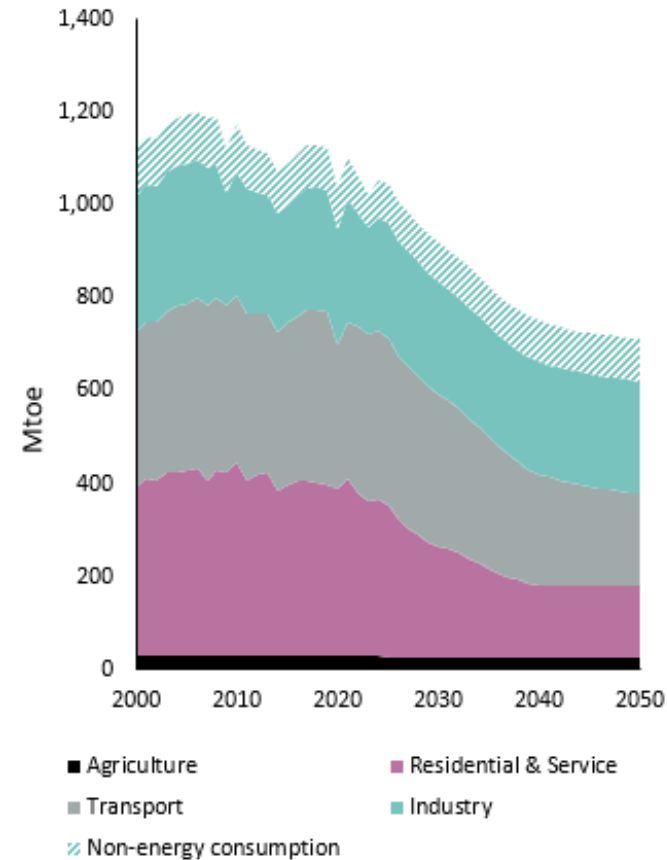




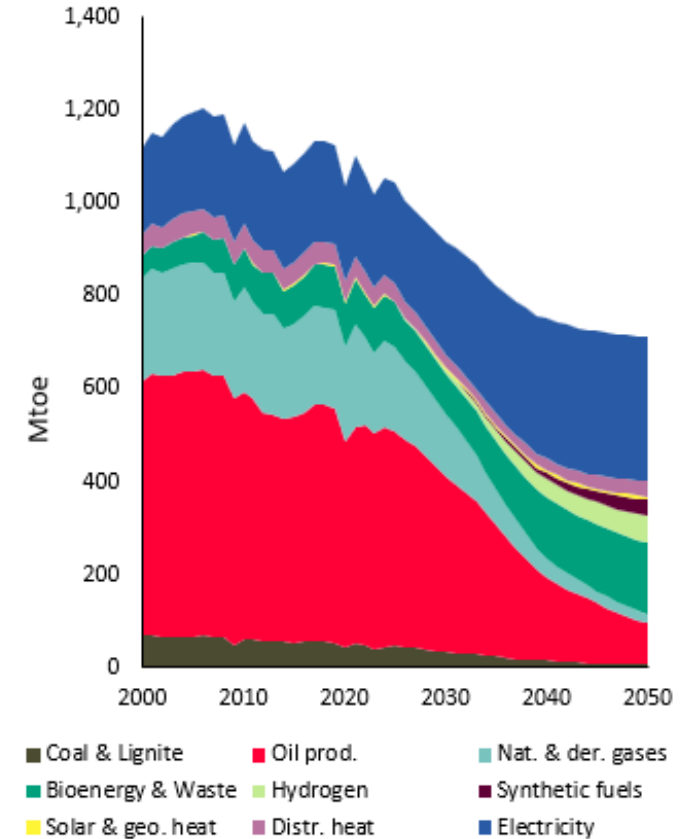
# Energy consumption

- **Energy consumption decreases** rapidly from 1023 Mtoe in 2023 to 710 in 2050 due to **energy efficiency measures**, especially in industry & transport
- **Electrification** across all sectors
- **Fossil fuel decrease** from 67% to 16%
- **Clean fuels** emerge and grow with H2 often in direct competition to biofuels

**Figure 16.** Energy consumption by demand sector<sup>20</sup>



**Figure 17.** Energy consumption by fuel<sup>21</sup>



<sup>20</sup> Energy consumption in this visualization includes FEC, energy demand of marine bunkers, which is attributed to transport, and transformation losses and auto-consumption of blast furnaces, which are attributed to Industry and final non-energy consumption (FNEC)

<sup>21</sup> Fuel consumption in this visualization includes FEC, final non-energy consumption (FNEC), energy demand of marine bunkers, and energy demand for transformation losses and auto-consumption of blast furnaces



# Agenda

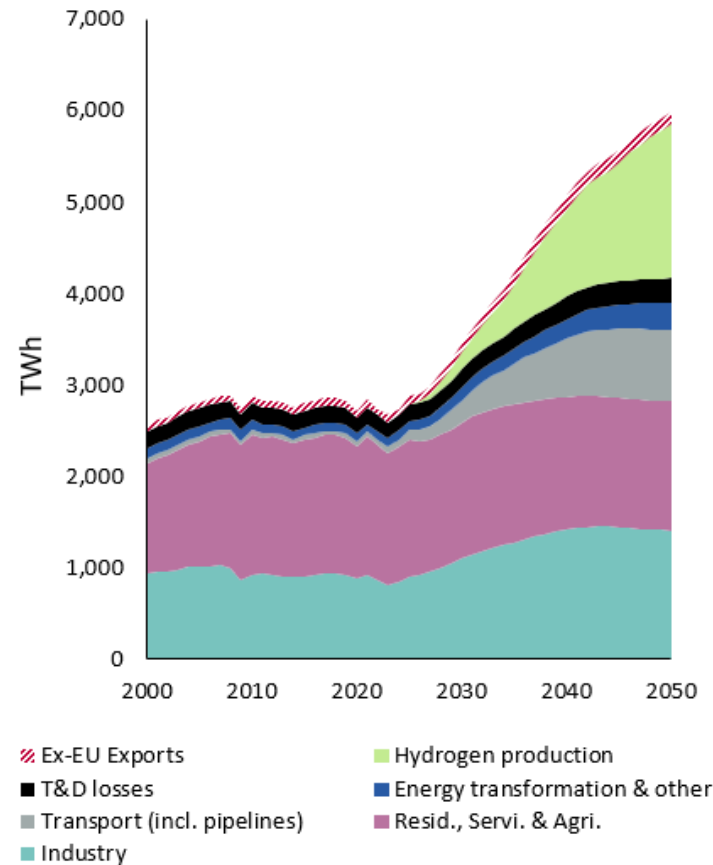
- Methodology:
  - The POTEnCIA model
  - The POTEnCIA CETO 2025 scenario
- Scenario results:
  - Energy system overview
  - Selected technology pathways
- Discussion & conclusion



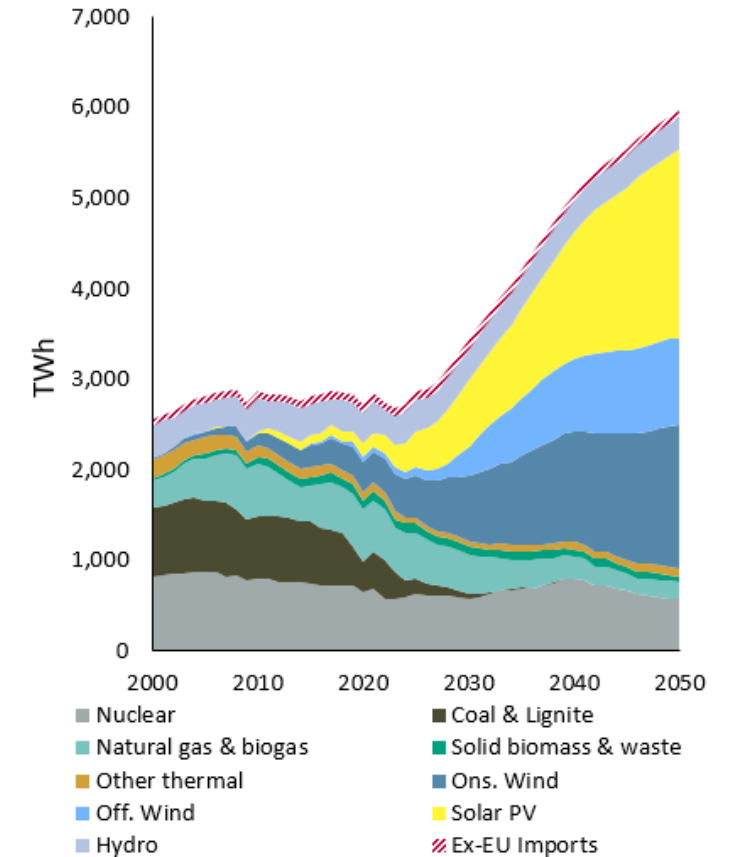
# Power sector – Generation and Demand

- **Electricity demand** more than **doubles by 2050** driven esp. by industry, road transport, and H2 production
- **Electricity supply:**
  - **VRE-share grows** from 28% to 79%
  - **Nuclear remains important** (esp. due to NECPs targets)
  - **Coal almost phased out** in 2030
  - **Natural gas** remains but **with CCS**

**Figure 77.** Electricity demand by sector<sup>68</sup>



**Figure 78.** Net electricity generation by technology<sup>69</sup>



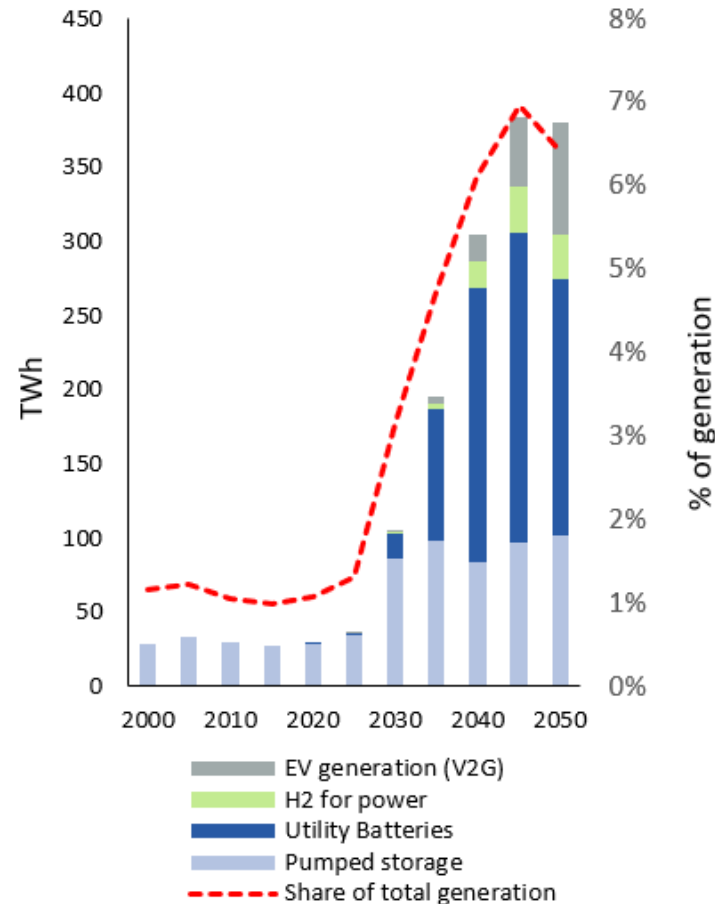
<sup>68</sup> Energy transformation & other includes amongst other refineries, storage losses, CO2 capture and storage, synthetic fuel processing, and others

<sup>69</sup> Hydro includes run-of-river and hydro dams, and tide, wave, and ocean, but excludes hydro pump storage; Other thermal includes derived gas, refinery gas, diesel oil, fuel oil, solar thermal, and geothermal

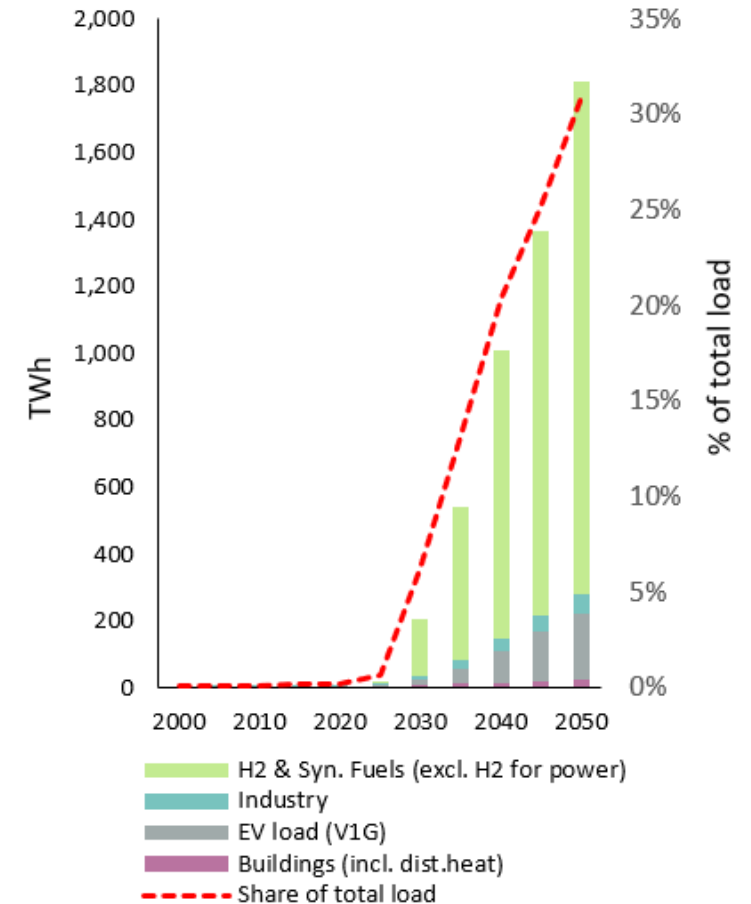
# Power sector – Flexibility

- **Storage and flexibility measures** needed due to intermittent VRE:
  - **Batteries become dominant storage technology** reaching 64% of stored energy generation by 2040
  - **Flexible electrolyzers** reach almost 30% of total electricity demand
  - **Flexible BEV charging** provides significant grid flexibility
  - **H2 for power** primarily used for seasonal storage

**Figure 79.** Power generation from storage units



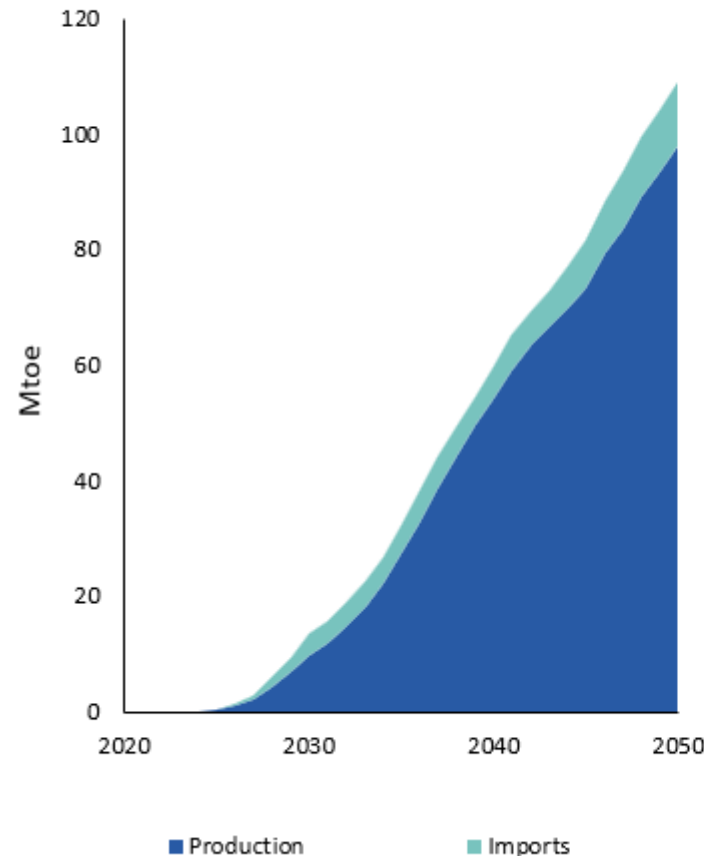
**Figure 80.** Flexible demand by sector<sup>71</sup>



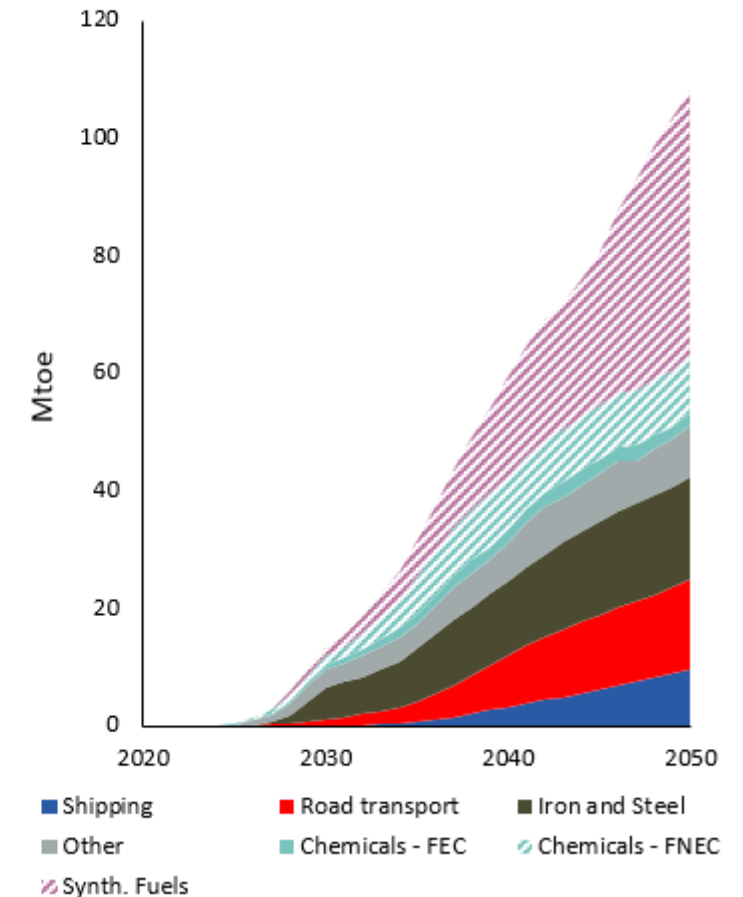
# Hydrogen

- **Strongly supported by NECPs and EU policies** (esp. RED III, FuelEU Maritime, ReFuelEU Aviation, AFIR)
- Reaching an ambitious **3.5 Mt H<sub>2</sub> production in 2030** with early demand coming from chemicals, I&S, and first synthetic fuels\*
- Reaching **39 Mt H<sub>2</sub> in 2050** destined for various industry and transport sectors, directly and indirectly via synthetic fuels

**Figure 85.** Green Hydrogen sources



**Figure 86.** Green Hydrogen demand by sector<sup>78</sup>



# Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage

- **Early growth in industry** (especially non-metallic minerals and chemicals) reaching **~50 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> in 2030**
- **By 2050, >400 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>** are captured, 36% from industry, 33% from power & heat
- **DAC emerges in 2030s** reaching 14% capture share by 2050
- **Most CO<sub>2</sub> stored underground**, but starting from 2030s increasing shares used for synthetic fuel production

Figure 94. Captured CO<sub>2</sub> by sector of origin

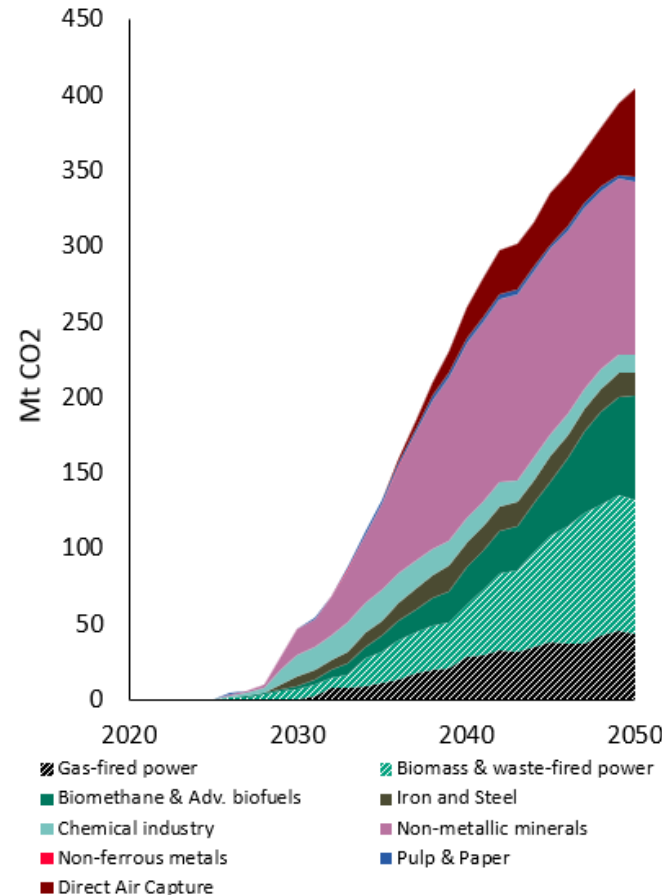
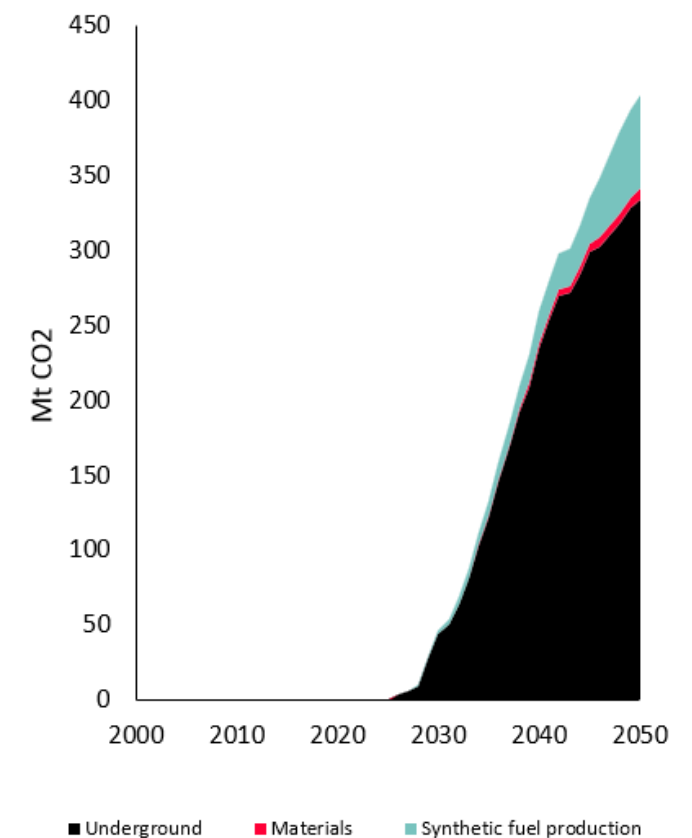


Figure 95. Captured CO<sub>2</sub> by type of storage & use



# Agenda

- Methodology:
  - The POTEnCIA model
  - The POTEnCIA CETO 2025 scenario
- Scenario results:
  - Energy system overview
  - Selected technology pathways
- Discussion & conclusion



# Conclusion

## The **POTEnCIA CETO 2025 Scenario**:

- is **technology-driven** using the insights of the CETO initiative
- explores a **pathway for deep-decarbonization** aligned with European Climate Law
- shows how **energy efficiency measures and electrification** lead to a 38% reduction in final energy consumption
- specifies the **critical role of clean energy technologies** (CCUS, electrolyzers, biofuels, etc.)

→ *The POTEnCIA CETO 2025 Scenario report will be published in the coming month*





# Thank you

Contact: [JRC-C6-JRC-IDEES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:JRC-C6-JRC-IDEES@ec.europa.eu)

A pathway for EU deep-decarbonization from a technology perspective



© European Union 2025

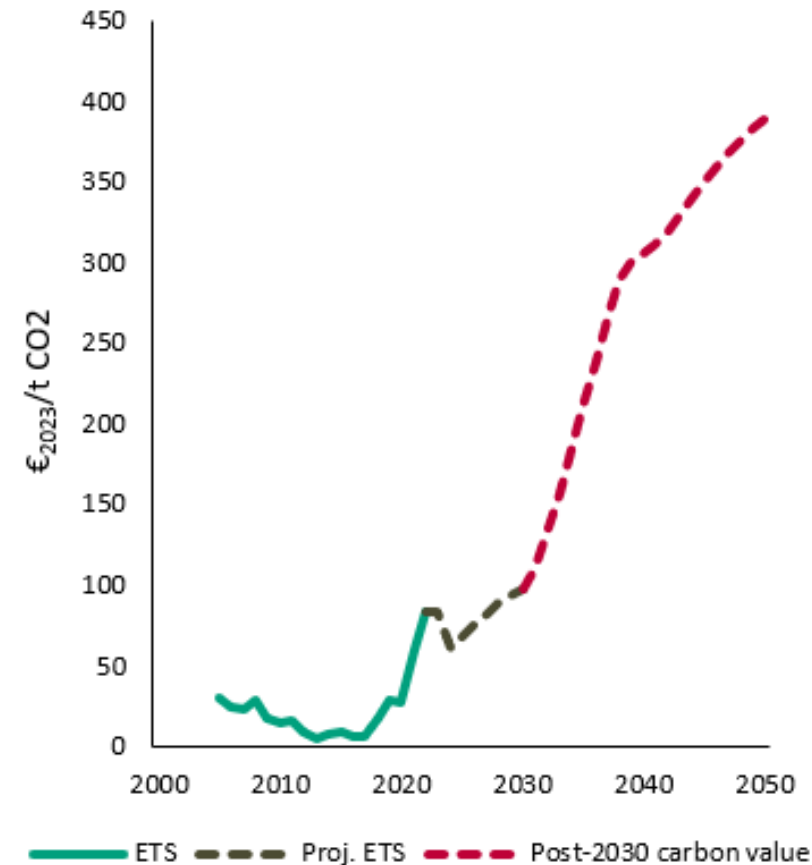
Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.



# ETS price and carbon value

- ETS price to recover and further rise to **98 €/t by 2030**
- After 2030, a **universal carbon price** is applied to all sector
- Reaching **>300 €/t by 2040** due to progressively tightening emission constraint
- Afterwards, **slower further decrease** towards 2050

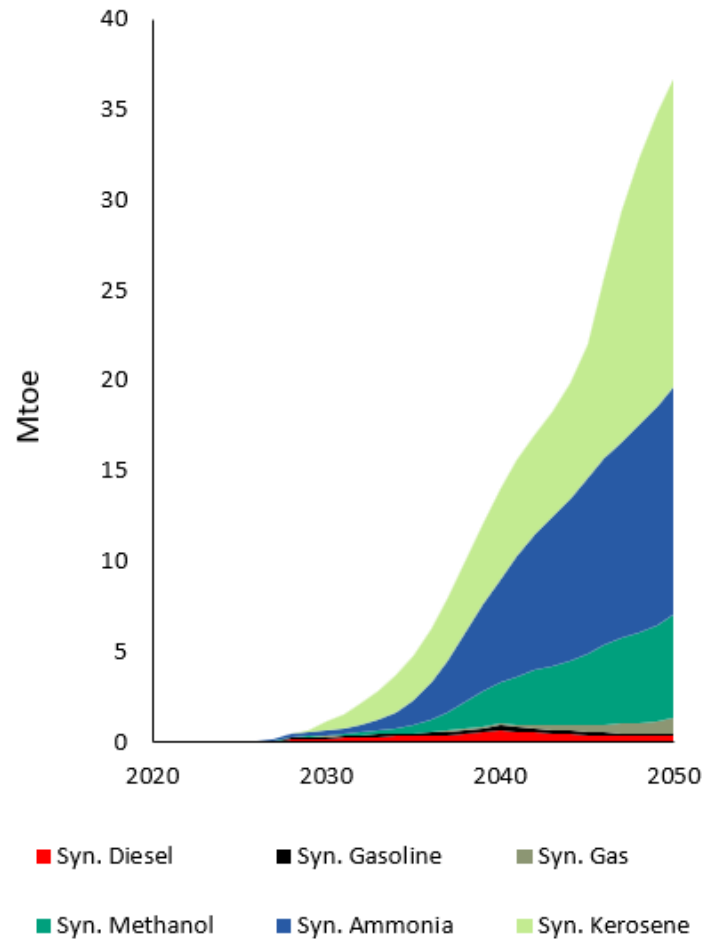
**Figure 9.** EU ETS price & carbon value



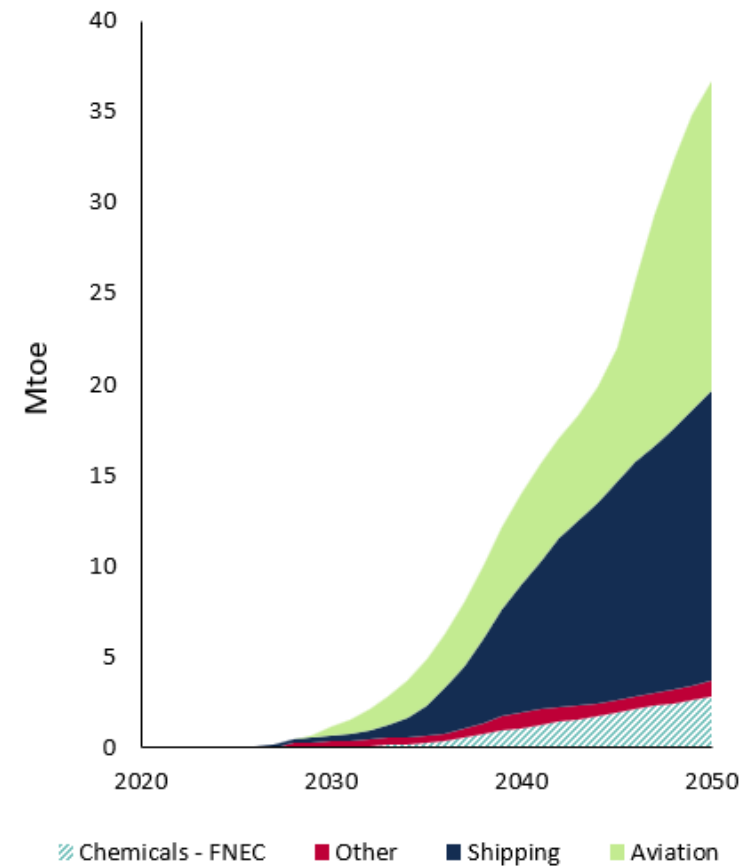
# Synthetic fuels

- **XXX**

**Figure 87.** Synthetic fuel production by type



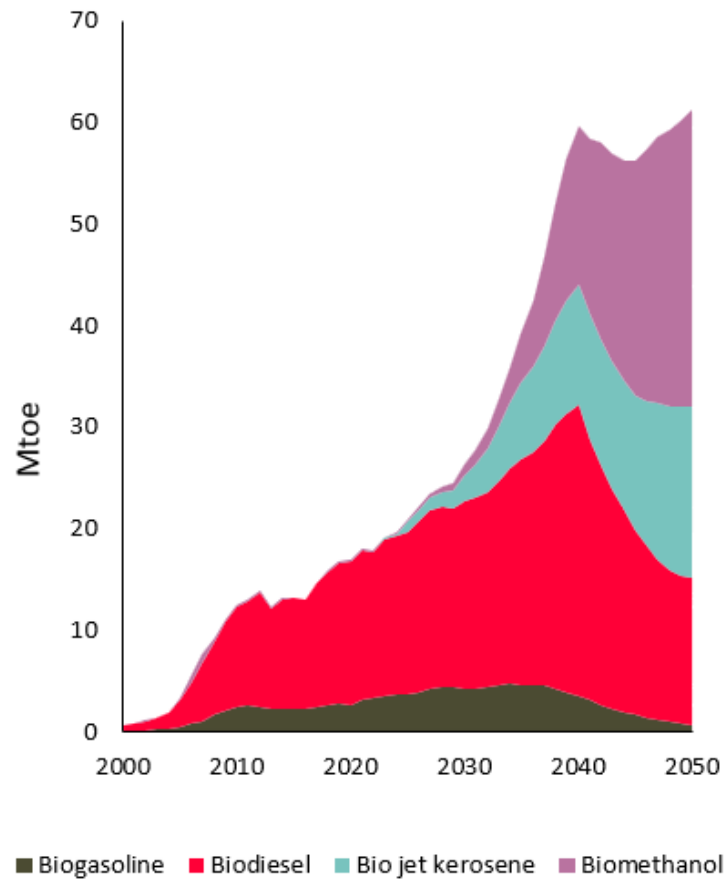
**Figure 88.** Synthetic fuel demand by sector<sup>80</sup>



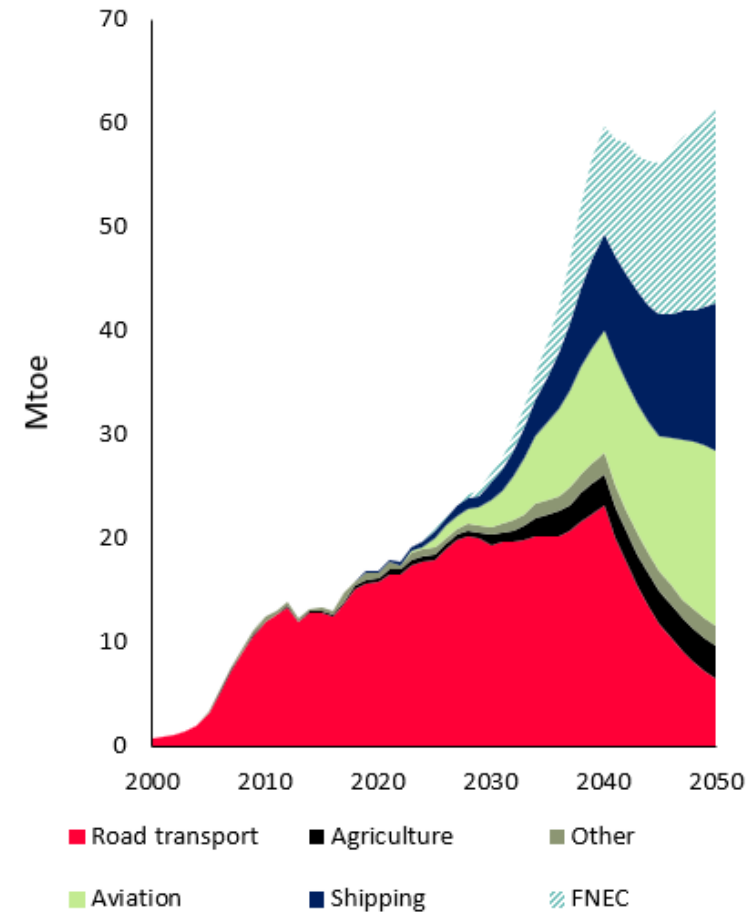
# Biofuels

- **XXX**

**Figure 89.** Biofuel consumption by type



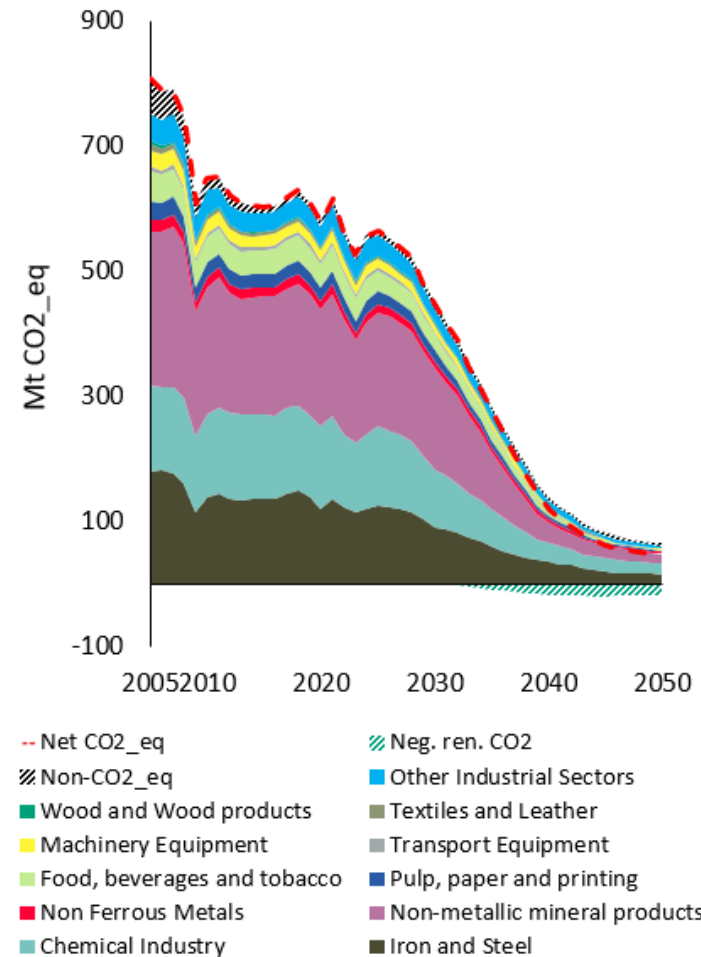
**Figure 90.** Biofuel consumption by sector<sup>81</sup>



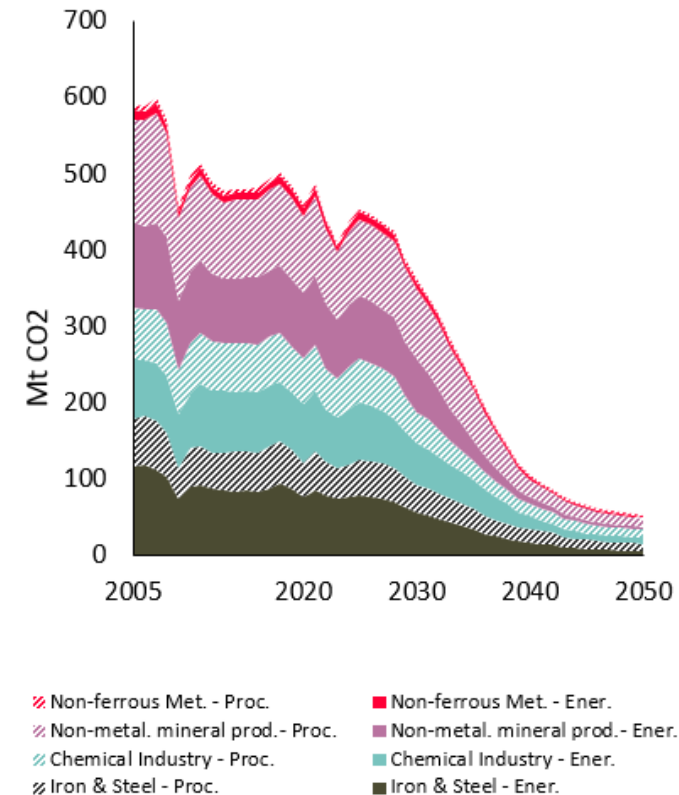
# Industry

- XXX

**Figure 19.** GHG emissions for the industry sector<sup>24</sup>

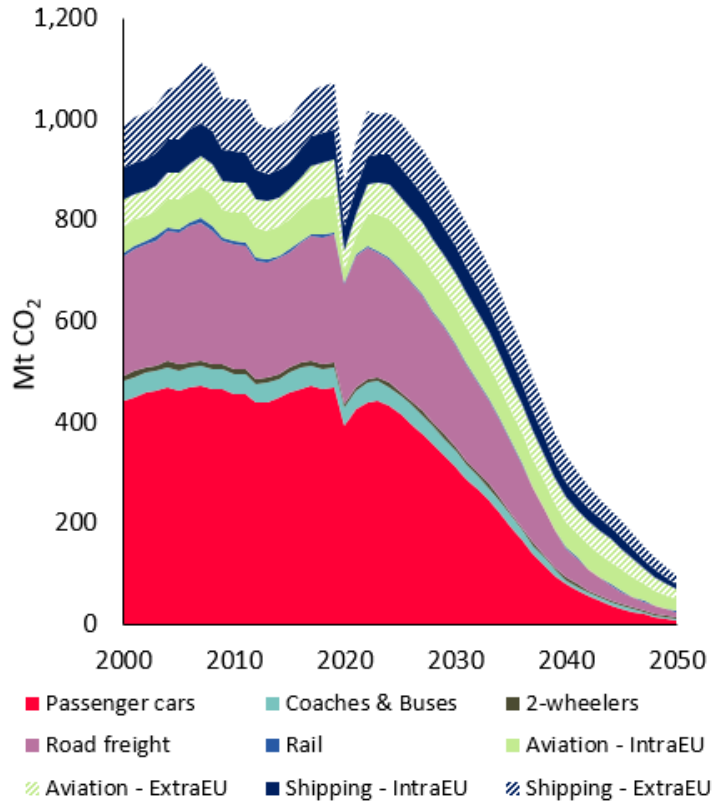


**Figure 20.** Energy & process emissions for selected energy-intensive industries<sup>25</sup>

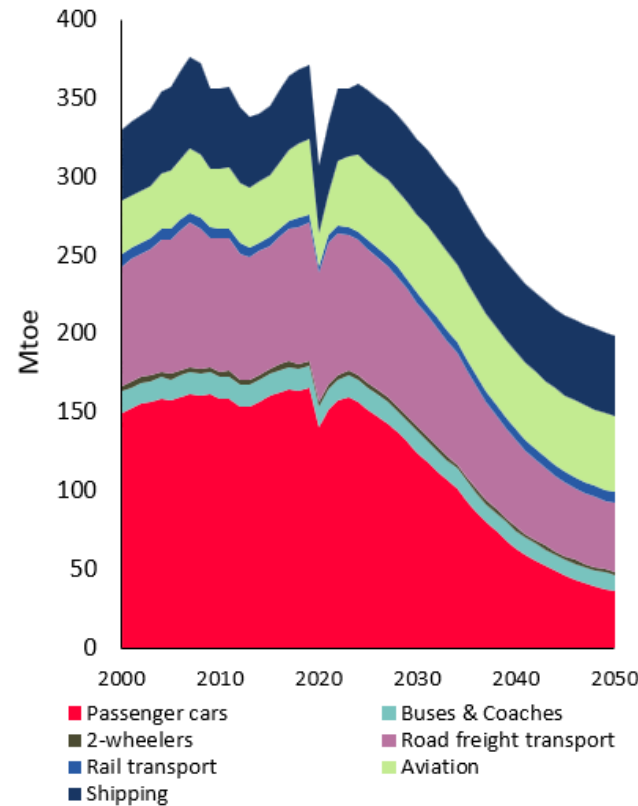


# Transport

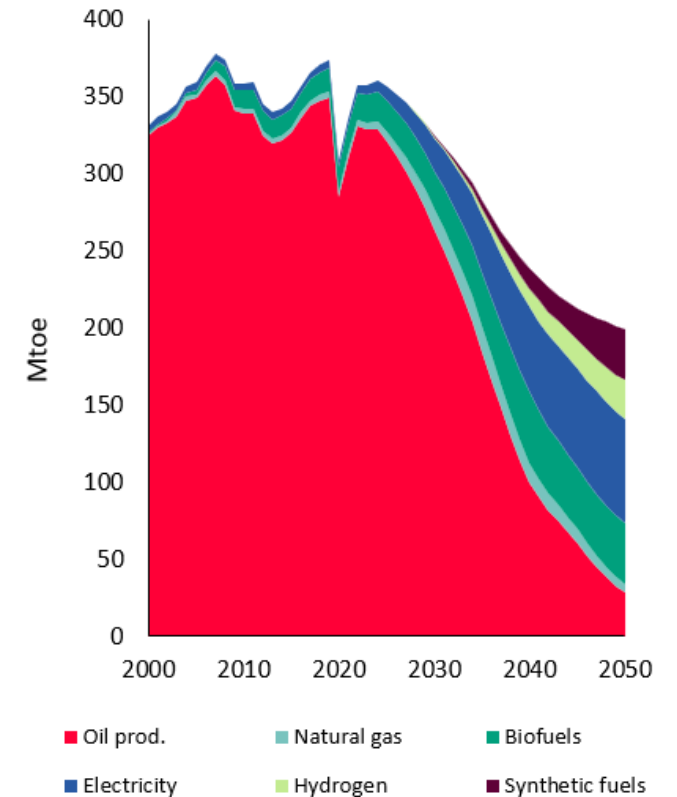
**Figure 41.** Emissions in the transport sector



**Figure 46.** Energy demand in transport by sector<sup>46</sup>

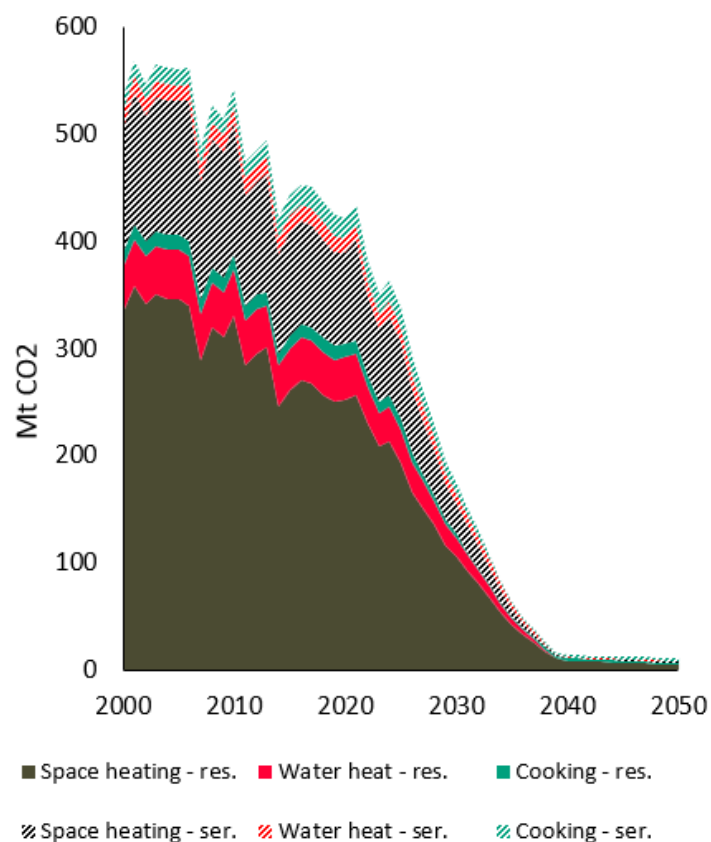


**Figure 47.** Energy demand in transport by fuel<sup>46</sup>

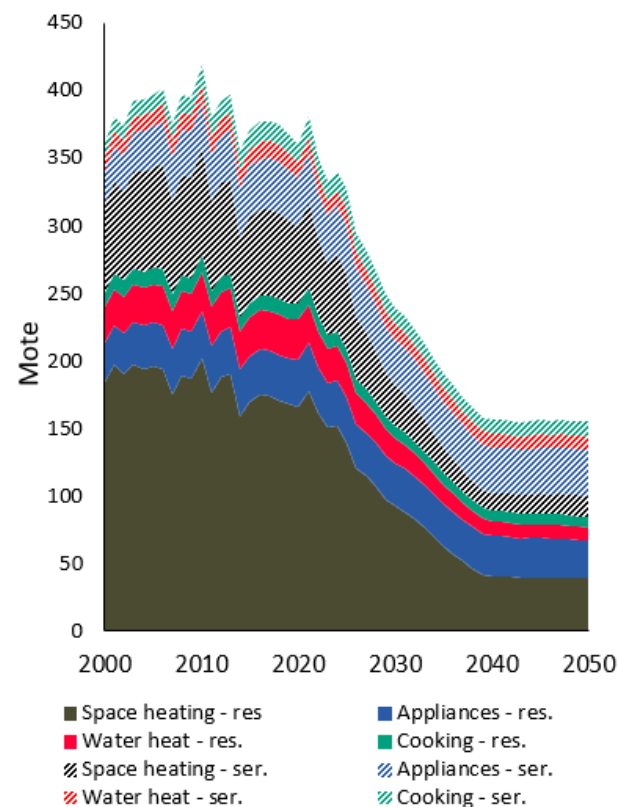


# Buildings

**Figure 69.** Net emissions in residential and services sectors<sup>61</sup>



**Figure 67.** FEC in residential and services sectors by energy service type<sup>59</sup>



**Figure 68.** FEC in residential and services sectors by fuel<sup>60</sup>

