

## ESPP workshop: algae, wastewater, wastes and the circular economy.

Regulatory status of algae and biomass  
grown using wastewater, wastes or animal by-products



**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 14h00 – 18h30, Brussels & online.**

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

Updated programme, information and **registration** [www.phosphorusplatform.eu/legalworkshop](http://www.phosphorusplatform.eu/legalworkshop)

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

### Objectives:

- discuss the legal analysis proposed by Barry Love, Environmental Law Chambers, accredited specialist in environmental law.  
***This draft legal analysis will be made available to participants ahead of the meeting.***
- 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.

### Proposed programme

*Proposed speakers and topics below are pending confirmation*

13h45: Welcome coffee, Sicilian juices and cakes

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

- ESPP (5 mins): opening and welcome, why wastes are important inputs to algae production (nutrients, CO<sub>2</sub>), use of algae/biomass to purify wastewaters or gases
- Maris Stulgis, European Commission, DG MARE (10 mins): 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 CO<sub>2</sub> fixing.
- EU-funded R&D projects (10 mins): 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](#)
- algae/biomass for CO<sub>2</sub> fixing or pollution removal from industrial offgases (5 mins)

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

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

15h30 – 16h00: Break, networking, coffee etc

16h00 – 17h00: Manure, food waste, animal feed.

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

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.