meteoLCD Weblog

A weblog on climate, global change and climate measurements
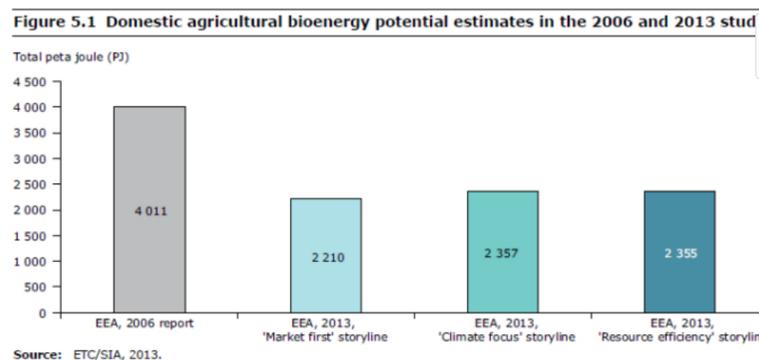
A new EEA report on bio-energy potential

The EEA has released a new report (#6/2013) "EU bioenergy potential from a resource-efficiency perspective".

It makes for an interesting reading, as much of the hype found in earlier reports has quietly vanished and now makes place to more sober thinking.

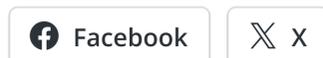The following figure shows the dramatic return to reality from the 2006 report and this one:

The available potential is almost divided by two, and does not differ much between the 3 "stories" analyzed in the new report.

The report also shows quite clearly the problem of "carbon debt" when using forestry resources : when wood is burned, all the stored carbon is released in one CO2 pulse into the atmosphere, and this "debt" will be repaid only during the coming years when a mass equivalent to the burned one will have regrown. The authors concede that "… *as a consequence, this report probably over-estimates the GHG mitigation from using forest biomass to generate energy*". This realism has to be applauded!
One of the most important aspects ILUC (indirect land use change) is now discussed quite heavily, and its importance made apparent. The authors also write " *Conversely, where biomass is derived from energy cropping, some bioenergy pathways lead to additional GHG emissions and other environmental impacts.*"
Read this report, even if you are no great fan of bioenergy!

Share this:

[Facebook]   [X]

Related

EEA report on climate change
November 25, 2012

EEA report: Impacts of Europe's changing climate
September 29, 2008
In "News"

PM contribution of road traffic
December 17, 2018

This entry was posted on July 3, 2013 at 17:49 and is filed under Uncategorized. You can follow any responses to this entry through the RSS 2.0 feed. You can leave a response, or trackback from your own site.

Leave a comment