



The month's figure ...

137 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent: the maximum level of annual emissions which we must not exceed if we are to attain factor 4 in France by 2050.



Four years after the initial audit, the General Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development (CGEDD) assessed France's ability to attain its objective of cutting its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by three-quarters by 2050, as set at the Grenelle Forum on the Environment in 2007. The authors note that « *several favourable factors have appeared in the fight against greenhouse gases* », since 2013, such as the enactment of the Energy Transition for Green Growth Act, the coming into force of the Paris Agreement, the low carbon national Strategy settled upon in November or again the « *significant drop* » in the cost of renewable energies and the « *increased sensitisation of the populations to the climate change issues* ».

However, they raise the alert regarding the slow rate of emission reduction. According to the conclusion of the report, the attaining of « factor 4 » by 2050 would need a reduction of 3 % per annum in emissions instead of the current average figure of 1.5 %, i.e. the lowering of the maximum annual level of emissions to 137 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent. According to the authors, efforts need to be continued in numerous fields. They state for instance that « *Agriculture remains difficult to decarbonize and that progress in knowledge (soils, land use, land use change and forestry) remains necessary* » and that « *the construction industry sector is trailing very much behind the ambitions posted in terms of renovation* » on account in particular of « *the lack of reliable data about the effects on the renovation works done* ». On the transport side – the sector with the highest level of GHG emissions, the authors mention the « *slow progress* » and propose avenues for optimization: « *improved energy efficiency, energy sources with lower carbon footprints based on electrification, alternative fuels produced from biomass or hydrogen, and even new forms of mobility made possible in particular by the information and communication techniques* ». They also note that « *the deployment of intermittent/deconcentrated energies or new vectors of energy is not easy and raises the question of intelligent networks to pilot storage, eradication, stabilization and safety* » and point out that « *the industry has to move towards even greater efficiency thanks to the circular economy and work on the storage of carbon* ».

Discover the full report by following this link: http://www.cgedd.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/008378-02_rapport_cle212381.pdf

Link to the article in the *Journal de l'Environnement* devoted to the subject: <http://bit.ly/2pY5gJN>

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