

Event Summary of European Future Energy Leaders Event “How to Go Net Zero in the Heavy Industry”



On 04.12.2020 the third European Future Energy Leaders (FEL) event took place on the topic of “How to Go Net Zero in the Heavy Industry”.

Europe’s energy intensive industries - cement, steel, glass and chemicals - are responsible for around 16% of EU emissions, and 60% of all EU industrial emissions. To achieve the EU’s target to get climate neutral by 2050 energy intensive sectors play a central role in decarbonization. Together with leaders of the heavy industry participants discussed how net-zero can be achieved in hard to abate sectors.

Dr. Carsten Rolle, Executive Director of the World Energy Council in Germany, kicked off the event with a presentation on the relevance of manufacturing industry for green house gas emissions as well possible technology and policy solutions ranging from electrification, PtX to CO2 pricing and subsidies.

David Cast, Climate Change Director at NSG Pilkington elaborated on CO2 emissions along the value chain of a global glass manufacturer as well as NSG’s approach to fulfil its Science Based Target commitment to reduce scope 1 and 2 emissions by 21% by 2030 covering procurement of renewable power, energy efficiency measures and technology change.

Dr. Sebastian Scholz, Program Manager Hydrogen Transformation at ThyssenKrupp Steel provided a deep dive on hydrogen solutions for CO2 reduction in steel production explaining ThyssenKrupp’s pathway to climate-neutral steel until 2050.

Magali Anderson, Chief Sustainability Officer of LafargeHolcim presented how a global Cement player aims to achieve carbon neutrality using levers such as upgrading plant operations, integrating alternative fuels, procurement green power, innovating materials and implementing carbon capture.

The event was moderated by Ana Luí de Sousa, Doctoral Researcher at the Instituto Superior Técnico and FEL of Portugal as well as Benjamin Böckl, Business Steering & Development at Verbund and YEP of Austria. Thanks for organisations go to Annkathrin Rabe, YEP Germany, Wassim Ballout, FEL France, Cristian Montoya, FEL France and Christian Diendorfer, YEP Austria.

The European FEL initiative is a cooperation of the Young Energy Professionals (YEP) of the World Energy Council in Germany with WEC initiatives of young professionals across Europe and the FEL-100 network. The European FEL initiative was founded during the World Energy Congress in Abu Dhabi and while the first two events covered on the short- and long-term impacts of Covid-19 on the energy sector this event focused on decarbonization of hard to abate industry sectors.