

Grenelle de l'environnement:

Annotated Translation of French Environmental Law

Janelle Tupper

SIS: International Studies, CAS: French Studies, translation certificate

Capstone Advisor: Dr. Edward Dawley

Spring 2011

General University Honors

Article 1

The ecological emergency we¹ face is troubling.² This law seeks to set goals³ for an ambitious response⁴ to this assessment. In doing so, it defines the framework of action, organizes long-term governance, and lays out the political tools in place to fight against and adapt to climate change, preserve biodiversity and its services, promote an environment that respects human health, and preserve and draw attention to natural beauty.⁵ This law creates a new model of ecologically-responsible sustainable development⁶ combined with a reduction in the consumption of energy, water, and other natural resources. It will allow for continued growth without compromising the needs of future generations.⁷

For all public decisions likely to have significant environmental impact, decision-making processes will be revised to prioritize solutions that respect the environment. All decisions must include proof that a more ecologically sound⁸ alternative is impossible at a reasonable expense.

Public policy must promote sustainable development. To this end, policies must reconcile environmental protection and improvement, economic development and social progress.⁹

The national strategies for sustainable development biodiversity have been assembled by the French government to work within the European Strategy for Sustainable Development.¹⁰ They were developed in consultation with representatives of local and national elected officials, employers, workers, and civil society, notably the associations and foundations affected by the second paragraph of the 49th Article of this law.

¹ While the French law contains no personal pronouns, it is grammatically clumsy to avoid their use in English. The use of the pronoun adds clarity to sentence structure, as well as conveys some of the meaning lost from the word “partagé” in the original.

² Starting the Article this way gives the English reader a more clear idea of the basis of the law and the attitude with which the French government is approaching the problem. While it is stronger in tone than the original text, it conveys the underlying urgency present in the French.

³ The law is mentioned in the second sentence to give it similar attention as it receives in the original text. While the sentence structure in this first paragraph is greatly altered to create a more idiomatic sense, the meanings of ecological emergency and an ambitious response are conveyed.

⁴ “With the desire and ambition to respond” sounds clumsy; this sentence emphasizes the response taken and modifies it with the idea of ambition that is present in the French wording.

⁵ The idea of preserving “landscapes” would be strange for an English-speaker. However, the value of a landscape is in its natural beauty, hence this translation decision.

⁶ The more common rendering of “durable development” in English is “sustainable development.”

⁷ As the English definition of sustainability is in essence “growth that meets current needs while providing for needs of future generations,” I have distinguished between sustainability in the ecological sense and “sustainable” in the sense that the growth will continue through time.

⁸ An American reader might take issue with the phrase “favorable to the environment,” as it insinuates that environmental concerns are taking priority over human ones.

⁹ These three principles are known as the “triple bottom line” of sustainable development, (People, Planet, Profits), and will be familiar to anyone interested in environmental law.

¹⁰ This refers to an actual document released by the EU thus it is capitalized following English grammar rules.

Janelle Tupper
Grenelle Environment Conference

The State will ensure implementation of these guidelines through an ongoing committee of stakeholders at the Grenelle Environment Conference¹¹, and will report each year before Parliament, to whom it will propose measures to improve effectiveness. The administration¹² will provide to Parliament by October 10 an annual report on the implementation of the law's commitments. The report will also cover the law's impact on local finance and taxation and on financial pressure due to tax burdens¹³ on individuals and businesses.

In regards to French overseas territories (regions, departments, and collectivities)¹⁴, the State will base its policy on strategic decisions that take into account their specific environmental characteristics and the richness of their biodiversity. These decisions will be consistent with other appropriate measures for these territories.¹⁵

Decisions for overseas territories¹⁶ will include an important experimental framework for sustainable development using appropriate¹⁷ local governance. This is based on the principles outlined in the third paragraph of Article 73 of the Constitution on the rights of these regions to control certain policies within their borders.¹⁸

¹¹ "Grenelle for the environment" would be a literal translation of the name of the conference; however, any similar conference in English would have a title as the one in the TT. Another possible solution would be "Grenelle Environment Roundtable."

¹² "Administration" in English carries the same meaning as the word "gouvernement" in French. The use of the term "government" would create confusion, as parliamentarians are also part of the government.

¹³ "Prélèvements obligatoires" seems to mean taxes in general levied on individuals and businesses. This thus distinguishes an effect of "tax burdens" on economic actors from actual tax policy, "fiscalité."

¹⁴ English-speaking readers may be unfamiliar with the overseas nomenclature of French territories, so it is helpful to first specify that this paragraph is referring to French territories. However, the list of "regions, departments, and collectivities" is kept to avoid translation loss and to show the level of detail of the law.

¹⁵ "Consistent with the framework of other decisions for these territories" would be a more literal translation, but the sense of the phrase here is that decisions made due to the Grenelle law will not be burdensome on the existing legal structure of these territories.

¹⁶ The modification of "for overseas territories" is added to avoid confusion as to whether the decisions are referring solely to the preceding paragraph of to the law in its entirety, confusion that is not present in the original version due to the repetition of the word "choix." The word "choice" is much more informal in English and "decisions" is part of a more legal vocabulary.

¹⁷ "Adapté" in this context could mean either "adapted" or "appropriate," however, given the context it is more likely that it is referring to choices made as to the appropriateness of local action in sustainable development.

¹⁸ An explanation for Article 73 is helpful for English readers who are not familiar with French policy towards its territories.

Section 1: Combating Climate Change

Article 2

I. Combating climate change is our first priority.¹⁹ In this light, we confirm France's commitment to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 75%²⁰ between 1990 and 2050. To do this, greenhouse gas emissions will be reduced by an average of 3% per year. By 2050,²¹ annual greenhouse gas emissions will be less than 140 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CDE).²²

Given that the Arctic region plays a central role in the overall global climate balance²³, France will support the creation of an international scientific observatory in the Arctic.

Additionally, in order to protect the Arctic environment, France will promote or participate in appropriate international efforts to adapt international regulation to reflect new uses of the Arctic Ocean made possible by its increased accessibility.

France aims to become the most efficient economy in carbon equivalent in the European Union by 2020. To this end, France will take responsibility for its portion of the European Union greenhouse gas reductions target, which is at least 20% by 2020. This target will be raised to 30% if industrialized countries outside the European Union commit to comparable goals and newly industrialized countries²⁴ contribute appropriately. France will also support binding international emissions reduction commitments. Similarly, France will also strive for the achievement of the goal of a 20% improvement in energy efficiency in the European Union and commits to having at least 23% renewable final energy by 2020.

II. Domestic²⁵ measures for combating climate change will primarily address reductions in building energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions reductions in the transportation and energy sectors. These measures will be developed following an approach joining both air quality protection and the mitigation of climate change.²⁶ Controlling energy demand is the long-term solution to the problem of growing consumer energy costs, especially for the poorest households who are particularly vulnerable to increases in fossil fuel prices. The housing sector's energy

¹⁹ As with the first Article, the phrase needs a more concrete subject.

²⁰ "Divided by 4" sounds clumsy in English, as it places the emphasis on "division" rather than actual reduction in emissions.

²¹ The sentence is extremely long, and I chose to divide it in order to make the relations more clear and the meaning more apparent. This means that certain elements must be restated, such as the year 2050.

²² While the term is slightly unfamiliar to many American readers, it is an important distinction. Those who are interested in climate law will recognize it.

²³ "Global" here is replacing "planète," in order to draw links between "global warming" and the sentence in the reader's mind. "Overall" is the rendering of "global" in the original.

²⁴ This term is more common in English to define a country which is still developing, but is generally more advanced than many other developing countries.

²⁵ While "national measures" would be a more literal translation of the text, the phrase is confusing. "Domestic" is a better translation, given the nature of the paragraph.

²⁶ While a phrase like "combating climate change" would be more familiar to a popular American audience, if this text is intended for people involved in climate change policy, the distinction between mitigation and adapting to climate change is important.

Janelle Tupper
Grenelle Environment Conference

saving program will include steps directed at fighting energy instability.

To implement the goals set in section I, domestic measures aim to integrate the cost of greenhouse gas emissions into the final cost²⁷ of goods and services, in particular by:

- Improving consumer information on the ecological cost of goods and services
- Adopting new regulations
- Expanding the European Union Emission Trading System²⁸ to new economic sectors, keeping in mind domestic policies in other member states.
- Auctioning off a portion of energy allowances allotted to businesses, keeping in mind the vulnerability of affected industries to international competition. The portion of allowances to be sold after 2013 could reach 100% if the affected industry has the capacity to support the consequences without suffering significant losses in its market share. This will be done²⁹ in accordance with the timetable set by directive 2003/87/CE of the European Council and Parliament on October 13, 2003, which established the European Union Emissions Trading System.

The State will study the possibility of a new “climate energy tax”³⁰ in order to encourage restraint in carbon and energy use. This tax would³¹ aim to incorporate the effects of greenhouse gas emissions into the fossil fuel price and taxation systems. It would be directly offset by a tax reduction in order to conserve household purchasing power and business competitiveness. Six months following the enactment of this law, the result of this study will be made public and presented to Parliament.

France will support climate-related import sanctions³² on countries which refuse to contribute appropriately to the global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions post-2012, based on their respective responsibilities and capacities.

All economic incentive systems and public financing devoted to investment in the production or consumption of energy will consider the energy savings achieved and the time necessary for the investments to achieve profitability. Their effectiveness will be evaluated especially in regard to the cost of the mechanism as it relates to the volume of greenhouse gas emissions avoided.

The economic incentive and public finance measures aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions must be based on the market price of the carbon dioxide avoided or permanently captured.

²⁷ The final cost is by nature determined, and American readers would most likely view the sentence in terms of the final result than as the process, which is implied.

²⁸ Changing this system from a non-specific title to an exact one allows American readers to more quickly guess what it is talking about..

²⁹ Splitting the sentence both gives readers a chance to understand what they have just read, and clarifies the relationship between the preceding paragraph and the directive.

³⁰ This tax was never implemented, so it is to be assumed that the law is referring to studying what might happen if such a tax were to be put into place.

³¹ Since the tax in question is only a possibility at the time of this law, the phrase is rendered in the conditional.

³² All news articles on the subject refer to the practice in this manner, thus I chose to adopt the English equivalent rather than translating the French directly.

Chapter IV: Energy

Article 18

The State will use various tactics³³ to reach energy consumption reduction targets, including changes in efficiency standards³⁴, incentive mechanisms that prioritize energy-saving products (including fiscal programs), the increased use of energy labels³⁵ (particularly in high-consuming appliances), a strengthened certification system for energy efficiency following an evaluation of this program, and the gradual market removal³⁶ of the highest consuming products, processes, appliances, and vehicles. The development of construction standards with certification systems³⁷ to guarantee building energy efficiency will be encouraged.

The State³⁸ will create incentive mechanisms to prioritize development and production of products and processes that reduce energy consumption and produce renewable energy, especially for small and medium-sized businesses. A portion of the revenue from the sustainable development fund will be used for financing sustainable development projects for these businesses, which will be supported by loan guarantee programs created by the State.³⁹

France will support the EU plan to ban high-consuming light bulbs in order to remove them from the market by 2010. In partnership with affected industries, especially distributors, the State will work to anticipate European deadlines.

Targets for energy efficiency and conservation require mechanisms for adjustment and elimination of peak hour energy consumption⁴⁰. This will be accomplished by providing smart meters to individuals with increased energy rates for peak hour energy consumption.⁴¹ This will also require that smart meters become standard in order to allow building occupants to better understand and control their energy consumption in real time.

The State will study the possibility of requiring corporations employing or contracting more than 250 persons⁴² to assess their energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by the end of

³³ While many of the items on the list that follows are “instruments” in English, a tactic is more precise for the kinds of programs described.

³⁴ Efficiency standard is the preferred term in English

³⁵ There is a European program regarding energy labels, so I used this term

³⁶ Saying “removal” gives the image of France rounding up appliances and shipping them off. Market removal is more precise.

³⁷ A search for “charte qualité” showed that this phrase is used for marking companies and products that have achieved a higher level quality. This sentence is probably referring to a system similar to LEED in the U.S., where buildings are ranked according to their environmental considerations.

³⁸ The general pronoun “il” is replaced with “the State” to provide clarity.

³⁹ Combining these two sentences eliminates the endless repetition of “small and medium-sized businesses, and also serves to clarify relations.

⁴⁰ Peak hour energy consumption is the term in English for the part of the day when the most energy is consumed.

⁴¹ “Effacement Jours de Pointe” is a common phrase in the French energy community, and refers to the possibility of energy consumers being charged more for consumption during peak hours. It can be assumed that this is an earlier iteration of this phenomenon.

⁴² “Employing or contracting” replaces the loss of “salariés où agents,” a distinction which is harder to convey in English.

2013. This deadline will be moved to 2010 for companies whose securities are already traded on a regulated market. Information campaigns and incentive measures will be put into place for small and medium-sized businesses and other corporations employing or contracting between fifty and 250 persons so they will establish similar assessments.

In order to take into account physical realities of climate and habitat, the State will establish specific limits for energy consumption⁴³ in new buildings applicable to French overseas territories. These limits will account for any applicable seismic risk.

Article 19

I. Modifies law number 2007-781, Article 29 (Passed 13 July 2005)

II. In order to diversify energy sources, reduce reliance on greenhouse gas-emitting fossil fuels and increase the share of renewable energy in final energy consumption to at least 23% in 2020 (a twofold increase compared to 2005), the State will prioritize development of all renewable energy sectors⁴⁴ in economically and ecologically sustainable conditions. Attaining this goal requires an increase of 20 million tons of oil equivalent to the annual production of renewable energy by 2020, bringing this to 37 million tons of oil equivalent total.

Intermediary objectives for each sector will be set in 2009, and an assessment will be performed in 2012.

In the interest of effectiveness, uniformity, and continued regional solidarity⁴⁵, the State will encourage the development of certain initiatives performed by operating authorities⁴⁶ for energy distribution on behalf of member producers⁴⁷ within the scope of their authority.⁴⁸ These initiatives⁴⁹ will facilitate the large-scale⁵⁰ execution of the national strategy and goals relating to the enhancement of local energy resources and energy consumption control.

III. In order to achieve the goals defined in the first paragraph of section II, an accelerated research effort will be necessary to allow for technological breakthroughs. Development of renewable energy sources cannot come at the expense of other sustainable development goals.

⁴³ “Reglementation thermique” is the French practice of setting specific building energy efficiency standards in particular regions. This translation conveys this idea without going into specifics of the practice.

⁴⁴ Definitions for “filière” are mostly related to an academic field of study; the closest equivalent in the energy world would seem to be “sector.”

⁴⁵ While this clause falls at the very end of a very long sentence in the original, placing it at the beginning gives the English reader a clearer idea of the goals and priorities of the program in general and the law itself.

⁴⁶ An operating authority is a body in France that works with local systems in order to bring them together. Another example is an operating authority for the train system, which oversees all local trains.

⁴⁷ The members of an operating authority for energy are most likely energy producers; specifying this clarifies what exactly an operating authority is for an English-speaking reader who might not be familiar with the term.

⁴⁸ One possible translation for “compétence” is “domain,” which gives the idea of the governing authority having a specific geographic region over which they have authority.

⁴⁹ The French “qui” is ambiguous as to who is facilitating (the authorities, the members, or the initiatives). It can be assumed that the initiatives are the intended subjects, and thus the relation is clarified in the translation.

⁵⁰ “Sur des vastes territoires” can be translated simply as “large-scale”

Development of renewable energy will be facilitated by reliance on planning, incentives, and diffusion of innovative technologies at various local levels⁵¹. In each region, a local plan for renewable energy will define qualitative and quantitative regional goals in order to increase the potential for renewable energy suited⁵² to its territory. Plans will take into account geographic zones based on regional potential, and will be consistent with national goals. The State aims for the adoption of these plans within one year after the publication of this law. These plans will be intended in particular to determine priority regions for wind farm construction. Local consultation and the regulatory framework for wind energy will be improved.

The State will plan to adapt⁵³ energy transport and distribution networks in order to incorporate the new capacity for renewable energy production.

The State will study the possibility of extending the benefit of fixed-rate prices⁵⁴ for electricity from renewable sources to departments and regions.

IV. Monetary⁵⁵ support funds for developing production and distribution of renewable heat sources make up part of the total support given to production and distributions of renewable heat sources, especially biomass, geothermal and solar energy, but also⁵⁶ through the insertion of biogas into the transportation and distribution network (with specifications adapted and designed after January 1st of 2010) and by the increased use of lignocellulosic and agricultural resources.

Heavy support will be given to heat networks supported by renewable sources, including the use of water from deep mine reservoirs.⁵⁷

The production of renewable energy from a district heating network⁵⁸ will be taken into account in all texts regarding construction and urbanism, in particular building energy use limits and energy performance labels, in a fashion similar to renewable energy production *in situ*⁵⁹. A sub-

⁵¹ “Echelons territoire” refers to the geographic breakdown of France (regions, counties, towns, etc.). While this is a difficult concept to express to someone unfamiliar with the French system, “various local levels” implies a similar sort of breakdown.

⁵² The only possible interpretation of the word “fatal” in this context is that the type of renewable energy is perfectly suited for the specific region, and thus is destined to be there.

⁵³ While the French is vague on who is doing the planning, it can be assumed that it is the State, and thus this sentence eliminates the passive voice used in the original.

⁵⁴ “Tarifs d'achat de l'électricité produite” means that prices for energy from renewable sources are fixed in order to give investors confidence in the potential profits on their investment.

⁵⁵ The addition of the word “monetary” provides a clearer distinction between the kinds of support.

⁵⁶ “But also” clarifies the relation between the parts of the sentence. Biomass, geothermal, and solar are the most important measures, but the items listed next are also part of the projects receiving support.

⁵⁷ A deep mine reservoir is what is left when a mine is empty, and is usually filled with water. The heat from this water can be used in systems similar to geothermal energy.

⁵⁸ This practice is known as “combined heat and power” and is quite common. However, leaving the text ambiguous rather than giving it a specific name leaves the practice more open, as the French practice may be different from the American one. District heating is the equivalent for “reseau de chaleur.”

⁵⁹ The Latin is kept, as it appears to be a common term in both languages. It is italicized to make sure that readers know it is Latin rather than a typo, as “in” does not provide the flag of another language as it does in French.

station of the district heating network supplied by more than 50% renewable and reusable energy is considered a renewable energy production facility.

V. The production of hydraulic energy that respects the biological quality of rivers⁶⁰ is an integral part of the renewable energies supported by the State. The development of energy transfer stations through pumping is especially encouraged.

The State will study the conditions in which hydraulic power systems⁶¹ with installed capacity⁶² of less than or equal to 12 megawatts will be able to benefit from the obligation to buy energy produced or its renewal. Systems will be eligible once they fulfill the environmental criterion defined by applicable law and technical production standards, with no additional constraint.

VI. All construction plans for coal-fired power plants must be designed with the potential to equip the plant with a carbon dioxide capture and storage device as soon as possible.

No new coal-fired power plant will be authorized to begin operations if it does not demonstrate complete compatibility⁶³ with the capture, transport, and storage of carbon dioxide.

Article 20

In order to limit environmental damage caused by hydroelectric activities on watersheds and to encourage development of local sustainable development policies, the revenue tax on hydroelectric operations may be raised above 25%.⁶⁴

Article 21

Biofuel production in France is subject to energetic and environmental performance criteria, especially regarding effects on soil and water resources. France will support the implementation of a biofuel certification system at the European and international levels, taking into account their economic, social, and environmental impacts.

Priority will be given to the development of research on second- and third-generation biofuels.

⁶⁰ If the production is happening “dans le respect de la qualité biologique,” it can be assumed that the French are admitting that not all hydraulic power plants do this, and thus it is appropriate to make a more clear delineation as to what kind of hydropower in particular the French government is willing to support.

⁶¹ “Unités” in this context refers to a system for producing hydropower.

⁶² Installed capacity refers to the amount of energy a plant is able to produce (not necessarily how much it actually does produce). This means that the paragraph is referring to small-scale hydraulic power plants

⁶³ “S’inscrire dans la logique” is a phrase meaning “to be compatible/logical with.” France does not require that power plants actually use carbon capture and storage technology, thus this can only be interpreted as their decision that all new plants must be compatible with the technology.

⁶⁴ “Concessions” in French, as in English, refers to a company operating the hydroelectric plant owned by the government. However, the word “concessions” has associations with junk food in stadiums and movie theaters in English. “Operations” is an accurate substitute.

Chapter V: Research in Sustainable Development

Article 22

I. Research plays a central role in the analysis of environmental processes, and is the source of technological innovations indispensable to environmental preservation and adaptation to large-scale planetary changes. The national research effort will prioritize⁶⁵:

- Renewable energy, especially the production of thin-film photovoltaic solar cells, tidal energy and geothermal resources at all depths
- Energy storage
- Fuel cells
- Hydrogen power
- Perfecting carbon capture and storage (especially using plants)
- Building energy efficiency
- Vehicles and transportation systems on land, sea, and air
- Second- and third- generation biofuels
- Biodiversity
- Exploration and classification of biodiversity, especially for plant breeding
- Understanding ecosystems, especially those inhabited by humans⁶⁶
- The study of ecosystem services
- Ecology restoration and ecological engineering
- Inventories of natural heritage
- Analysis of behavioral determinants and environmental protection economics
- Observation and understanding of climatic changes
- Adaptation to these changes
- Meteorological research.

The lack of research⁶⁷ for renewable energy requires the optimized, simultaneous mobilization of research organizations, universities, *Grandes Écoles*⁶⁸, and technical centers specializing in environment and energy.

In order to improve interactions between health and environment, special efforts will be made to prioritize research in chemical substitutes, eco- and human toxicology⁶⁹, and methods of evaluating environmental and health risks. A program will be created to develop research on

⁶⁵ An 149-word sentence is unacceptable in English; the list is broken into bullet points to simplify it.

⁶⁶ “Anthropisée” translates most directly to “anthropic.” While this is a word, it is archaic, meaning “of or relating to humans.” This can be taken to mean ecosystems with human influence.

⁶⁷ While the French refers more specifically to research that is lagging behind demand, there is no succinct way to express this in English. A lack of research conveys the same idea, and is more idiomatic.

⁶⁸ Given that the *Grandes Écoles* have a specific legal status in France with no equivalent in the United States, and also that they are fairly well-known, it seems best to leave the term untranslated.

⁶⁹ The distinction between “eco-toxicology” and “toxicology” is not immediately clear; this distinction is clarified

infectious diseases and health risks associated with climate change. Subjects for special programs will include:⁷⁰

- Clean technologies and the development of clean products,
- Technologies for the treatment of water and waste, soil protection and reduction of agricultural inputs,
- The contribution of plants to environmental and health improvement, especially through the capture and storage of persistent organochlorines

Carbon capture and storage will be supported by the organization of an appropriate legal framework and allocation of special funding.

II. Developing a network of research laboratories, construction of test platforms (especially for large infrastructure projects at national, European and international levels)⁷¹ and the establishment and strengthening of centers of excellence⁷², in cooperation with other European centers, will contribute to the realization of these goals. Particular effort will be given to electrochemical energy storage and batteries, power electronics components, hybrid traction drives, eco-construction, rehabilitation of polluted soils, and city modeling.

Research and development of new technologies must be supplemented with increased training in all educational and professional training courses. This training will give particular attention to careers in recycling. This will be accompanied by an effort to improve the image of these jobs in order to support job creation and to encourage young people and job seekers to seek employment in these areas.

France will support the European plan to coordinate scientific and technological research programs in sustainable development.

The State will mobilize an additional billion Euros by 2012 to support research in sustainable development, especially regarding climate change, future motors and energy, biodiversity, the environment's impact on health, and technologies for waste treatment and recycling.

Funding for research on clean technology and the prevention of environmental degradation will be progressively increased to attain equivalent funding with nuclear energy by the end of 2012⁷³. The national plan for energy research, referenced in Article 10 of law number 2005-781 of July 13, 2005 on energy policy⁷⁴, will be updated to incorporate these new guidelines. The annual report foreseen in Article 10 will include the execution of this obligation.

⁷⁰ As with the first list, breaking the sentence into bullet points makes it much easier to understand.

⁷¹ Putting this clause in parentheses gives it more separation from the rest of the list.

⁷² A "center of excellence" is a term in legal jargon meaning a group of businesses, research, and other organizations designed to research a particular topic. The term exists in both English and in French.

⁷³ Moving the deadline to the end of the sentence makes it less choppy and easier to understand. The same can be said for the next sentence.

⁷⁴ Translating the entire clause makes it unclear whether article 10 sets energy policy, or law number 2005-781. Simplifying the sentence clarifies this relation.

Janelle Tupper
Grenelle Environment Conference

In order to accelerate the application of new technologies and services contributing to the fight against climate change, demonstrations of new energy technologies will be eligible for support from the French Agency of the Environment and Energy Control. The previously cited annual report referenced in Article 10 of law number 2005-781 of July 13, 2005 will report on these state-supported projects.⁷⁵ Focus will be given to⁷⁶ projects regarding biomass foreseen by law number 2006-739 of 28 June 2006 on sustainable management of radioactive waste and other materials, which provides for regional planning and economic development initiatives.

Support for ecologically responsible⁷⁷ innovations will be expressed especially by the mobilization and coordination of business clusters⁷⁸ working on the environment and by creating mechanisms to prioritize development of ecologically innovative companies.

Assistance measures for transfer and industrial development of new technologies will take into account their environmental performance.

⁷⁵

⁷⁶ The sentence is long and thus broken up; in order to do this, the focus on these projects has to be clarified.

⁷⁷ While English does occasionally use “eco” as a prefix (i.e. eco-friendly), it is not very common, and is more a marketing and advertising term than a legal one. Eco-innovative would be even more strange than eco-responsible; to keep the parallel between the two terms, both use “ecologically”

⁷⁸ A business cluster is also known as a competitive cluster, the equivalent of the “pôle de compétitivité.” The term “business cluster” is more common in English, and gives readers a better idea of what is being referenced.