

## **“The need to Boost Mobility with Clean Technologies Becomes Urgent:” Astrid Alvarez, GEB’s CEO**

- *Grupo Energia de Bogota (GEB) suggests speeding up the replacement of the vehicle fleet towards clean technologies.*
- *Energy industry leaders presented their outlooks regarding new challenges on energy matrix during the First E-Mobility International Meeting organized by the World Energy Council.*
- *Nowadays, the number of electric cars does not exceed 2 million worldwide and the goal is to reach 150 million units from this point to 2060.*

**Bogota, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017.** Grupo Energia de Bogota (GEB), within the framework of the First E-Mobility International Meeting organized by the World Energy Council (WEC), in Bogota, participated in the “*Individual Mobility Experiences*” panel, where matters related to trends in mobility with clean technologies and huge challenges to fight polluting gas emissions were discussed.

This is a highly significant issue, particularly in big capital cities, considering that –according to the Organization for Economic and Development Cooperation’s surveys- pollution is responsible for the death of 3.5 million people per year, as almost half of polluting agents in the atmosphere comes from mobile sources. In Colombia, 10,527 deaths were attributed to the low-quality air of cities in 2015.

Several nations are migrating to clean mobility and, to that end, they have established a deadline to forbid cars with internal combustion engines. Norway and Netherlands set 2035 as deadline, while France and United Kingdom set 2040 and 2050, respectively.

Nowadays, the number of electric cars has not reached 2 million worldwide and the goal is to exceed 150 million units from this point to 2060, which represents a huge effort.

Therefore, national and international experts, government and private sector representatives drew attention to the need to adopt measures as soon as possible in order to promote clean mobility. In this sense, Grupo Energia de Bogota’s CEO Astrid Alvarez highlighted challenges that companies and governments have to face in order to make progress in new cleaner mobility sources.

*“A public policy supporting the change is not enough; new smart strategies, both financial and commercial, are also required from companies. Therefore, at Grupo Energia de Bogota we think that, as part of the energy industry, we must lead this transformation.”*

In addition, Mrs. Alvarez affirmed that “Natural gas and electric energy not necessarily compete in terms of mobility. These two energy sources have their own different market niches, in the short- and medium-term. For instance, Natural gas may offer advantages to bi-articulated buses and urban freight transportation and interurban heavy freight transportation. Electric energy is a power source for motorcycles, particular vehicles and articulated buses.”

During the panel discussion, the CEO also highlighted that two fronts must be faced: in first place, a policy and regulatory framework discouraging the use of polluting vehicles must be promoted. In this sense, she suggested speeding up the replacement of the vehicle fleet towards clean technologies. “Today, vehicle tax favors old cars, and therefore, it also favors higher levels of pollution. *Junkization* is critical and it is necessary to speed it up,” she said. In second place, she explained that companies must implement measures and strategies facilitating access to electric cars.

Regarding that aspect, GEB is betting on clean mobility. For that purpose, the company is conducting surveys to measure economic and health costs, policy requirements determining business and financial strategies to boost electric power and natural gas programs. Furthermore, one of its business units is Urban Energy Solutions (UES), which focused on developing energy infrastructure to meet the energy demand of large cities

Leaders from the most important companies in the energy industry also participated in this panel, which was chaired by Eduardo Behrentz, Development and Graduates Vice Rector of University of Los Andes.

The E-Mobility International Meeting, organized by the World Energy Council, intends to create a space for discussion and debate to move forward with the understanding of the dynamics and the scale of challenges imposed by future mobility developments. Proposals discussed to encourage cleaner technologies included taxes and duties cuts on electric cars, to stimulate massive electric transportation and to discourage fossil fuel-powered mobility, among others.

For Grupo Energía de Bogotá, participating in this kind of events, looking for a vision on future energies, represents a big challenge and shows GEB’s commitment to boost energy matrix transition processes to have more sustainable cities.

### **About Grupo Energía Bogotá**

Grupo Energía de Bogotá (GEB), led by Empresa Energía de Bogotá, is a joint stock company listed in the Stock Exchange Market of Colombia, whose main corporate purpose is the generation, transmission, distribution and commercialization of energy, gas and liquid fuels in all of their forms.

Grupo Energía de Bogotá is the main Multi-Latin electric energy and natural gas company of the region with presence in Colombia, Peru, Guatemala and Brazil, and is focused on three Business Groups: **Urban Energy Solutions**, which focuses on developing and operating the infrastructure required to meet the electric power and natural gas demand in large cities. **Interconnection for Market Development**, which is responsible for connecting power generation sources with large consumption centers and large users and **Low Emission Generation**, which focuses on seeking for new opportunities in renewable energies in countries leading the transition of the energy matrix.

#### Contact

Jacqueline Guevara Gil  
External Communications Adviser  
Email: [jguevarag@eeb.com.co](mailto:jguevarag@eeb.com.co)  
[www.grupoenergiadebogota.com](http://www.grupoenergiadebogota.com)  
@GrupoEnergiaBog