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译英译中 Last Friday an advisory panel to the European Environment Agency issued an extraordinary scientific opinion: The European Union should suspend its goal of having 10 percent of transportation fuel made from biofuel by 2020. The European Unions biofuel targets were increased and extended from 5.75 percent by 2010 to 10 percent by 2020 just last year. Still, Europes well-meaning rush to biofuels, the scientists concluded, had produced a slew of harmful ripple effects - from deforestation in Southeast Asia to higher prices for grains. In a recommendation released last weekend, the 20-member panel, made up of some of Europes most distinguished climate scientists, called the 10 percent target "overambitious" and an "experiment" whose "unintended effects are difficult to predict and difficult to control." "The idea was that we felt we needed to slow down, to analyze the issue carefully and then come back at the problem," Laszlo Somlyody, the panels chairman and a professor at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, said in a telephone interview. He said that part of the problem was that when it set the targets, the European Union was trying desperately to solve the problem of rising transportation emissions "in isolation," without adequately studying the effects of other sectors like land use and food supply. "The starting point was correct: Im happy that the European Union took the lead in cutting

greenhouse gasses and we need to control traffic emissions," Somlyódy said. "But the basic problem is it thought of transport alone, without considering all these other effects. And we don't understand those very well yet." 想当译员吗？ The panel's advice is not binding and it is not clear whether the European Commission will follow the recommendation. It has become increasingly clear that the global pursuit of biofuels - encouraged by a rash of targets and subsidies in both Europe and the United States - has not produced the desired effect. Investigations have shown, for example, rain forests and peat swamps are being cleared to make way for biofuel plantations, a process that produces more emissions than the biofuels can save. Equally concerning, land needed to produce food for people to eat is planted with more profitable biofuel crops, and water is diverted from the drinking supply. In Europe and the United States, food prices for items like pizza and bread have increased significantly as grain stores shrink and wheat prices rise. 进入百考试题口译笔译论坛讨论 The price of wheat and rice are double those of a year ago, and corn is a third higher, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization said this week. "Food price inflation hits the poor hardest, as the share of food in their total expenditures is much higher than that of wealthier populations," said Henri Josserand of the Food and Agriculture Organization. For example, the European Environment Agency advisory panel suggests that the best use of plant biomass is not for transport fuel but to heat homes and generate electricity. To be useful for vehicles, plant matter must be distilled to a fuel and often transported long distances. To heat a

home, it can often be used raw or with minimal processing, and moved just a short distance away. gt.进入百考试题口译笔译论坛讨论 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com