

Rules on certification of power plants for the issuance of Guarantees of Origin, the issuance process, and the provision of information regarding the issuance of Guarantees of Origin

0. Changes from the previous version

This is the second edition of the rules. In accordance with its statutory role as the issuer of Guarantees of Origin in Iceland and at the request of stakeholders, Landsnet has for some time been a member of the Association of Issuing Bodies (AIB), with the aim of enabling stakeholders to trade Guarantees of Origin internationally. In this version, provisions regarding data collection and information provision by applicants for Guarantees of Origin have been added, which Landsnet deems necessary for the issuance of such guarantees, in order to ensure integrity and, where applicable, to comply with applicable EEA rules, standards, and AIB EECS rules. Additional definitions have been added to the rules, and it is now assumed that every applicant must complete a special application form when requesting the issuance of Guarantees of Origin.

1. Introduction

1.1. According to Article 3(1) of Act No. 30/2008 on Guarantees of Origin for electricity produced from renewable energy sources, Landsnet hf. is responsible for issuing Guarantees of Origin for electricity generated from renewable sources or from cogeneration of electricity and heat. The following rules apply to the certification of power plants, the issuance process, and the collection of information from applicants, which Landsnet hf. deems necessary for issuing Guarantees of Origin. The rules are based, on one hand, on Article 3(2) of Act No. 30/2008 on Guarantees of Origin for electricity produced from renewable energy sources, and on the other hand, Article 5(2) of the same Act. According to the aforementioned article, Landsnet hf. oversees that electricity for which a Guarantee of Origin is issued is actually produced from renewable energy sources or from cogeneration of electricity and heat in accordance with objective, transparent, and non-discriminatory criteria as defined in Act No. 30/2008. According to Article 5(2) of the same Act, the applicant is obliged to provide Landsnet hf. with all information it deems necessary in relation to the issuance of a Guarantee of Origin.

2. Definitions

The following definitions apply to these rules:

2.1. Renewable Energy Sources: Renewable energy sources that are not fossil fuels (wind power, solar power, geothermal energy, wave and tidal power, hydroelectric power, and energy from biomass, landfill gas, sewage treatment plant gas, and biogas).

2.2. Biomass: The biodegradable fraction of products, waste, and residues from agriculture (including materials of both plant and animal origin), forestry and related industries, as well as the biodegradable part of industrial and municipal waste.

2.3. Electricity produced from renewable energy sources: Electricity from power plants that use only renewable energy sources, as well as electricity produced from renewable energy in hybrid plants that use both renewable and non-renewable energy sources.

2.4. Applicant: The applicant for the issuance of a Guarantee of Origin may be the legal entity that owns and operates the relevant production unit, or a third party with contractual authorization from the electricity producer to request and receive Guarantees of Origin for electricity generated in the relevant unit.

2.5. The term Guarantee of Origin in these rules refers to two types of Guarantees:

2.5.1. Guarantee of Origin for electricity produced from renewable energy sources: Confirmation that the electricity is produced from renewable sources, including wind, solar, geothermal, wave and tidal, hydro, and biomass, landfill gas, sewage treatment gas, and biogas, and not from fossil fuels; and/or

2.5.2. Guarantee of Origin for electricity from cogeneration: Confirmation that electricity is produced through cogeneration with high energy efficiency, according to criteria set by the National Energy Authority.

2.6 Certifying Authority: The entity responsible for certifying power plants for the issuance of Guarantees of Origin.

3. Certifying Authority

3.1. Landsnet hf. is responsible for certifying power plants in Iceland for the issuance of Guarantees of Origin. Certification by an entity other than Landsnet hf. is considered valid if (i) the certification is less than 5 years old, (ii) the certification documents meet the criteria listed in Chapter 4 of these rules, and (iii) the certifying authority is deemed acceptable by Landsnet.

4. Criteria for Certification of Power Plants

4.1. When certifying a power plant for the issuance of a Guarantee of Origin, the certifying authority shall ensure that the following criteria are met:

- a) Electricity from the plant is produced solely from renewable energy sources or through cogeneration of electricity and heat.

- b) Guarantees are only issued for the electricity that is sold from the power plant or cogeneration unit.
- c) Measurements of the electricity production from the relevant power plant or cogeneration unit are reliable.

4.2 Certification of the power plant and cogeneration unit is valid for 5 years from the date of certification. After this period, the certification must be renewed.

5. Application Process and Information from Applicants for Guarantees of Origin

5.1. The applicant must complete a specific application in connection with their request for the issuance of Guarantees of Origin. The application form is available on the Landsnet website.

The applicant must provide Landsnet hf. with all information it deems necessary regarding the issuance of the Guarantee of Origin. A Guarantee of Origin cannot be issued if sufficient information is not provided.

5.2. Once it has been confirmed that the application concerns electricity produced from renewable energy sources or cogeneration of electricity and heat, the Guarantee of Origin is pre-registered electronically with the central registry administrator for Guarantees of Origin (Grexl).

In the application, the applicant must declare the following:

- a) that there are no provisions in electricity sales contracts, or other agreements or documents of the applicant, which restrict the applicant's authority as the electricity producer to have the specified Guarantees of Origin issued and/or transferred.
- b) that the applicant is not aware of any non-compliance of their application with applicable laws, standards, and other requirements related to the issuance of Guarantees of Origin.

5.3. In cases where the applicant applies for a Guarantee of Origin based on contractual authorization, sufficient confirmation from the electricity producer must be available stating that the applicant is authorized and that the representative is permitted to make declarations on behalf of the producer regarding the matters referred to in items a) and b) in section 5.2 of these rules. Landsnet reserves the right to verify the validity of such authorizations, including by contacting the electricity producer directly.

5.4. Once the above conditions have been met, the Guarantee of Origin shall be issued electronically by the central registry administrator for Guarantees of Origin (Grexit) and made available to the applicant.