



REDcert

System principles for the process step **First gathering point** for implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances
(BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)

Version 04

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Introduction

To protect the climate and reduce current CO₂ emissions, the sustainable use of biomass for energy is to be encouraged. The 2009/28/EC Directive defines sustainability requirements for the use of biomass for energy. With the Biomass Electricity Sustainability Ordinance (BioSt-NachV) and the Biofuels Sustainability Ordinance (Biokraft-NachV), the framework of the Renewable Energy Sources directive stipulated by the European Union for sustainability criteria for biofuels and liquid fuels is transposed into national law (Germany). The specifications of the Sustainability Ordinances apply for companies along the entire production, processing and supply chain all the way to the plant operator and those responsible for providing proof that they satisfy the requirements pursuant to the Energy Taxation Act and the Federal Immissions Control Act (BImSchG). All operations engaged in the production and supply of biomass in compliance with these regulations must have pledged to comply with an approved certification scheme. REDcert is this type of certification scheme.

1 Scope of application

This document describes the requirements as well as the documentation and verification for all first gathering points who participate in the REDcert system.

First gathering points are operations that receive the harvested biomass from the operations that cultivate and harvest such biomass for the purpose of further processing. First gathering points are thus generally dealers, agricultural cooperatives or oil mills that obtain biomass from a number of different farms.

2 Requirements and documentation

2.1 General requirements

First gathering points have to document that they have pledged to satisfy the requirements of the REDcert system in the handling (e.g. storage, preparation, mixing) of biomass under the scope of the Sustainability Ordinances. **Verification can be provided in the form of, for example, the certificate (valid for 12 months) or the contract with REDcert.** First gathering points also have to ensure that all of the operations directly or indirectly involved in the production or supply of the biomass which are not interfaces themselves are at least committed to fulfilling the requirements of a certification system (e.g. REDcert) which has been approved in accordance with this ordinance during the production of biomass within the scope of this ordinance, and satisfy these requirements. **Verification can be provided to the first gathering point in the form of the self-declarations filled out and signed by the farmers.**

The traceability of the biomass is ensured by a mass balance system. Records are to be kept at every step in production and supply. The system is to be applied in such a way that the quantity of sustainably produced biomass is identified at every step. Records must ensure that there is always a transparent link between the biomass and the documentation.

2.2 Incoming biomass

The first gathering point has to document the following:

- name and number of all farms – **here, a general list is kept that is provided to the certification body responsible upon request to perform random inspections**
- that the requirements set forth in Articles 4-7 are satisfied by the farms for every delivery of sustainable raw material supplied (**verified by the annual submission of a self-declaration by the farm – see 2.1; this declaration can be submitted for the entire quantity harvested by a farm or for individual crops; it is also possible to explicitly exclude plots or crop types; the verification documents are kept by the farm and can be viewed at any time – copies of the respective verification documents can also be kept by the first gathering point**)
- whether the farm is subject to inspections in accordance with Art. 50 or Art. 51 of the German Sustainability Ordinances (Biokraft-NachV/BioSt-NachV) (**cross compliance/EMAS**)

- location of the cultivation area as a polygon in geographic coordinates with a resolution of 20 metres for each individual point (this is not necessary if the producer confirms that he keeps the respective verification in the self-declaration)
- delivery documents for every quantity of sustainable biomass (**e.g. delivery slip or weight certificate**)
- if not listed in the delivery documents, the following for every quantity of compliant biomass
 - the type of incoming sustainable biomass
 - the date the sustainable biomass was received
 - the quantity of sustainable biomass [in tonnes]
 - the GHG emissions as an absolute value in grams of carbon dioxide equivalents per kilogram of the incoming sustainable biomass (for individual calculation or if requested by the recipient of the biomass) OR it is indicated which (partial) default values, NUTS 2 values or estimates are to be used for the incoming sustainable biomass. The information in the self-declaration determines whether it is necessary to perform an individual calculation of the GHG emissions or whether default values, NUTS 2 values or estimates are applied.
 - country where it was farmed
 - purchasing contracts between the farm and the first gathering point or other standard industry documents or documents similar to purchasing contracts
- contracts with third parties that have been contracted to handle the sustainable biomass (e.g. subcontractors, brokers, warehouse operators)
- the name of the person who verified the accuracy of the data forwarded and documented by the upstream operation or operating site upon receipt of the sustainable biomass
- the name of the person who accepted the quantity of sustainable biomass

2.3 Internal company information

The following data is also to be recorded by the first gathering point relating to internal processes:

- the quantity of sustainable biomass that went into the process
- the type of internal processes (e.g. drying and cleaning)

- conversion rates
- GHG emissions if an internal calculation is performed
- mass balancing
- the name of the person who verified the accuracy of the internal process and the recorded and documented mass balance attributes

2.4 Outgoing biomass

In the REDcert certification system, first gathering points, when supplying sustainable biomass, are required to provide the data necessary for the documentation of the downstream interface, operation or operating site pursuant to the Sustainability Ordinances and to report inconsistencies in the documentation immediately vis-à-vis the REDcert certification system and the contracted certification body.

The following data is to be provided by the first gathering point to the next interface, operation or operating site when sustainably produced biomass is sold

- delivery documents for every quantity of outgoing sustainably produced biomass
 - certificate number and name of the certification system (in this case: REDcert)
 - type of sustainable biomass supplied
 - date sustainable biomass left the premises
 - quantity of sustainable biomass (in tonnes)
 - the GHG emissions as an absolute value (cumulative across all upstream operations) in grams of carbon dioxide equivalents per kilogram of the outgoing sustainable biomass as an absolute value (for individual calculation or if requested by the recipient of the biomass) OR it is indicated which (partial) default values, NUTS 2 values or estimates are to be used (e.g. GHG calculation in accordance with default value)
 - country where it was farmed

and the following records kept:

- name and address of the purchaser (downstream interface, operation or operating site) for every quantity of sustainably produced biomass

- purchasing contract between first gathering point and downstream interface, operation or operating site
- contracts with third parties that have been contracted to handle the sustainable biomass
- mass balancing