



# REDcert

System documents for the process step  
**Supplier** for the 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 CO<sub>2</sub> 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. The framework for the Renewable Energy Sources Directive set forth by the European Union for sustainability criteria for biofuels and liquid fuels is transposed into national law with the Biomass Electricity Sustainability Ordinance (BioSt-NachV) and the Biofuels Sustainability Ordinance (Biokraft-NachV). 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 suppliers who participate in the REDcert system.

A distinction is made in the system between suppliers before the last interface and suppliers after the last interface.

**Suppliers before the last interface** are operations that actually deliver the biomass to the next recipient after cultivation by the farm up to the last interface.

**Suppliers after the last interface** are the operations that actually supply the liquid biomass or fuel to the next recipient after production by the last interface up to the plant operator or those required to provide proof that they satisfy the requirements.

## 2 Requirements and documentation

### 2.1 General requirements

In the bioenergy sector, the supplier after the last interface has to document that he has pledged to comply with the requirements of the REDcert certification system. Verification may be in the form of, for example, the inspection certificate or the contract with REDcert.

This pledge is not required in the biofuels sector as long as the relevant supplier after the last interface is subject to regular checks by the chief customs offices for tax monitoring purposes pursuant to the Energy Taxation Act (EnergieStG) or the Federal Immission Control Act (BImSchG). The respective verification issued by the customs offices or supervisory authorities is sufficient here.

### 2.2 Documentation requirements

Suppliers who participate in the REDcert certification system are required to provide the data necessary for the documentation of the downstream operations or the operating site or of any downstream interface every time they supply sustainable biomass. The documentation requirements described below apply to the suppliers.

When providing sensitive company data, proof must be provided that this data is handled confidentially by all operations along the supply chain.

#### 2.2.1 Incoming biomass

Suppliers must document the following information upon receipt of biomass:

- name and address of the seller (upstream interface, operation or operating site) for every quantity of sustainably produced biomass
- the type of incoming sustainable biomass
- the date the sustainable biomass was received
- the quantity of sustainable biomass [in tonnes]
- certificate number and name of the certification system
- the GHG emissions produced so far (cumulative across all upstream operations) 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.

- country where it was farmed or country of origin

and keep the delivery documents.

### 2.2.2 Outgoing biomass

Upon the sale of sustainably produced biomass, the following data must be provided by the supplier before the last interface to the downstream interface, operation or operating site:

- delivery documents for every quantity of outgoing sustainably produced biomass (in the case of a physical flow of goods through the supplier's operation or operating sites, he must issue the delivery documents himself; in the case of pure customer trade, the delivery documents must be passed on directly from the upstream interface to the downstream interface, operation or operating site).
  - 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 buyer (downstream interface, operation or operating site) for every quantity of sustainably produced biomass
- purchasing contract between supplier and downstream interface, operation or operating site
- contracts with third parties that have been contracted to handle the sustainable biomass

- mass balancing

The following data must be provided by the supplier after the last interface to the downstream interfaces, operations or operating sites:

- issued partial sustainability certificates

and the following records kept:

- name and address of the buyer (downstream interface, operation or operating site) for every quantity of sustainably produced biomass
- type of sustainable biomass supplied
- date the sustainable biomass left the premises
- the quantity of sustainable biomass (in tonnes)
- country where it was farmed
- any information about the mixture of various quantities

Invoices and issued delivery slips must be kept and available on request.

Suppliers in the REDcert system also have to report inconsistencies in the documentation of the upstream operations or operating sites immediately vis-à-vis the REDcert certification system and the contracted certification body. There is also a general obligation to provide data to REDcert upon request (e.g. if this is necessary to ensure seamless traceability of the sustainable biomass).

## 2.3 Requirements of the suppliers' mass balance system

Compared to other interfaces, operations or operating sites, suppliers before the last interface are not only required to have a mass balance system if they have legal and actual control over the sustainable biomass, but also when they are active in drop shipping and never actually have (physical) control over the sustainable biomass. For suppliers after the last interface, there is also a general obligation to use a mass balance system that satisfies the requirements of the Sustainability Ordinances. These requirements are described in detail in the REDcert system principles for mass balancing

### 3 Issuing sustainability certificates

As described in detail in the document "System principles for (last) interfaces", the BLE provides the web-based Nabisy database for last interfaces to issue sustainability certificates. Sustainability certificates issued to suppliers can also be split or merged in the database and partial sustainability certificates created. Suppliers after the last interface can gain access to Nabisy by submitting an application to the BLE. The application for access to Nabisy can be found on the REDcert website at <http://www.redcert.de> and must be presented to REDcert to be checked and passed on to the BLE. Other information on issuing partial sustainability certificates can also be found under Documents/Material.

If liquid biomass or biofuel quantities for which sustainability/partial sustainability certificates exist in Nabisy are not sold on the German market or they are used to produce electricity, the certificates must be removed from or invalidated in Nabisy. Country-specific accounts, called retirement accounts, can be used to remove certificates within the Nabisy system. You can find a list of the retirement accounts on the REDcert website under Documents/Material.