



Definitions in the REDcert-EU scheme

Version EU 01

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The legally binding basis for certification under the REDcert-EU scheme are exclusively the current versions of the English-language documents published on the REDcert website at www.redcert.org.

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1 Introduction

To establish a common understanding of the obligations, terms and definitions used in the REDcert-EU scheme, they are listed and explained in the following section. All scheme principles of the REDcert-EU scheme refer to these definitions and explanations.

2 The use of modal verbs in documents of the REDcert-EU scheme.

In the area of certification, the degree to which a statement is binding is essential for all economic operators. The degree to which statements are binding is expressed by modal verbs (can, may, must, should, want, like, become).

In the REDcert-EU scheme, the English version of the scheme documentation is the legally binding basis for certification. This can lead to misunderstandings regarding the meaning of modal verbs. To ensure a uniform understanding, the modal verbs used in the REDcert documents are therefore listed below with a brief explanation:

- The modal verb *can/could* indicates a possibility or ability.
- The modal verb *may* refers to permission or a prohibition. This includes “*may*”/“*may not*”/“*must not*” or “*allowed*”.
- The modal verb *must* refers to an obligation.
- The modal verb *shall/should* is a strong recommendation.
- The modal verb *want or would like* indicates a wish.
- The modal verb *will/would* indicates an *assumption, habit or request*.

3 Definitions and explanations in alphabetical order

Actual value

The actual value represents the greenhouse gas savings from some or all steps in a specific biofuel, bioliquid or biomass fuel production process, calculated according to the methodology of Directive (EU) 2018/2001, Annex VI, Part B.

Advanced biofuels

Advanced biofuels mean biofuels that are produced from the feedstock listed in Part A of Annex IX of the RED II (DIRECTIVE (EU) 2018/2001).

Agricultural, aquaculture, fisheries and forest residues

Agricultural, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry residues' means residues that are directly generated by agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry and that do not include residues from related industries or processing.

Agricultural biomass

Biomass from agriculture, including agricultural waste and residues.

Agricultural waste and residues

Waste and residues from agricultural production, aquacultural and fisheries, that do not include wastes or residues from related industries or processing.

Allocation

Assignment of elements of one set to elements of another set. In the GHG balance sheets, inputs and outputs (here: GHG emissions) of a system are divided between different products and functions. Allocation takes place in every process step that the main product passes through in which a co-product is produced. GHG emissions are divided proportionally between the main and co-product.

Allocation factor

The dimensionless factor used to allocate GHG emissions is called the allocation factor.

Audit (ISO/IEC 17000:2005)

A systematic, independent and documented process for gathering and objectively assessing audit evidence to determine the extent to which the audit criteria have been met. REDcert uses the term audit for an external review of REDcert requirements for interfaces or scheme participants along the entire production, processing and supply chain by a neutral certification body.

Auditor (EN ISO 19011)

A person qualified to conduct an audit.

Bidding zone

Bidding zone means bidding zone as defined in Article 2, point (65), of Regulation (EU) 2019/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴ for Member States or an equivalent concept for third countries

Biodiversity

See "Biological diversity".

Biogas

Gaseous fuels made from biomass.

Biofuels

Liquid fuels for transport produced from biomass.

Bioliquids

Liquid biofuels for energy purposes other than for transport, including electricity and heating and cooling, produced from biomass.

Biological diversity

Biological diversity (or biodiversity) is defined by the Convention on Biological Diversity as “variability among living organisms from all sources, [...]; This includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.”

Biomass

Biomass means the biodegradable fraction of products, waste and residues from biological origin from agriculture, including vegetal and animal substances, from forestry and related industries including fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the biodegradable fraction of industrial and municipal waste of biological origin.

Biomass fuel

Gaseous or solid fuels produced from biomass.

Biomethane

Methane (CH₄), which is of biogenic origin and a component of biogas. Biomethane is produced, for example, by processing biogas.

Biowaste

According to Article 3(4) of Directive 2008/98/EC, “biowaste” means biodegradable garden and park waste, food and kitchen waste from households, restaurants, caterers and retail premises and comparable waste from food processing plants

Branch office audit

See “Office audit”.

Canopy cover

The canopy cover is the degree to which the surface of the forest is covered by a layer of branches and foliage at the top of a forest's trees. A tree's cover corresponds to its crown width. The crown width can be estimated or measured. When determining the percentage of tree canopy cover, the vertical projection of all crown widths is used.

Carnot efficiency

The Carnot efficiency is the highest theoretically possible efficiency in converting thermal energy into useful heat. It describes the ratio of useful heat to the amount of heat absorbed and is higher the greater the temperature difference between the useful heat at the point of delivery and its ambient temperature. Since neither absolute zero nor infinitely high temperatures can be reached, a Carnot efficiency of 100% is impossible.

Carbon stock

Carbon stock has the meaning attributed to it in Article 3, point (4) of Regulation (EU) 2018/841.

Certification (ISO/IEC 17000:2005)

Confirmation of conformity by a third party for products, processes, schemes or people.

Certification body

A certification body means an independent accredited or recognised conformity assessment body that concludes an agreement with a voluntary scheme to provide certification services for raw materials or fuels by carrying out audits of economic operators and issuing certificates on behalf of the voluntary schemes using the voluntary scheme's certification system.

Certificate

A "certificate" is a conformity statement by a certification body within the framework of a voluntary scheme, certifying that an economic operator complies with the requirements of Directive (EU) 2018/2001.

Collection points

Operations that accept waste or residues from the supplying companies or private households for the first time are called collection points. These are generally collection/treatment and processing operations.

Come into operation

Starting production of renewable liquid and gaseous transport fuels of non-biological origin or renewable electricity for the first time or following a repowering as defined under Article 2, point (10) of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 requiring investments exceeding 30% of the investment that would be needed to build a similar new installation.

Commercial collector

A commercial collector is any natural or legal entity that, for the first time, receives waste and residues from biomass from the producer on a commercial basis or in the context of commercial activities, i.e. for other commercial or economic activities that do not aim at the collection of waste.

Complaint

A complaint is a statement by an interested party that expresses dissatisfaction and is linked to a claim against the scheme operator. A complaint does not justify a legal claim against the scheme operator.

Complaint management system

The complaint management system describes how the scheme operator systematically deals with complaints within the REDcert-EU scheme. The complaint management system is part of the integrity management system of the scheme operator.

Compliance

Compliance describes behaviour that is in accordance with the rules and regulations, correct and in compliance with the law.

Compliance management system

The compliance management system describes the scheme operator's systematic approach to all issues related to conduct in compliance with the rules, regulations and laws within the scope of the REDcert-EU scheme. The compliance management system is part of the integrity management system of the scheme operator.

Conditionality (former cross compliance)

Conditionality (former cross compliance) is defined as tying certain EU agricultural payments to requirements relating to the environment, climate, human, animal and plant health and animal welfare.

Confirmation of conformity

The REDcert certificate or the REDcert inspection certificate confirms conformity (see: "Compliance") with the requirements of the REDcert-EU scheme as well as with all relevant legal regulations (directives, regulations, laws, etc.).

Conformity

Conformity describes behaviour that is in accordance with the rules and regulations, correct and in compliance with the law.

Conformity assessment (ISO/IEC 17000:2005)

Proof that certain requirements for a product, process, scheme, person or body have been fulfilled. Conformity assessment includes activities such as testing, inspection and certification as well as accreditation of conformity assessment bodies.

Conversion plants

Companies that process liquid or gaseous biomass to reach the quality level required for end consumption. These are, e.g.:

- oil mills in the case of vegetable oil
- esterification plants in the case of biodiesel
- hydrogenation plants or co-hydrogenation plants in the case of hydrogenated vegetable or animal oils
- bioethanol production plants in the case of bioethanol (except when the biomass is further processed to ETBE as the last interface)
- biogas upgrading plants in the case of biogas for biofuels

Conversion factor

Conversion factors describe the ratio of biomass input to biomass output after a conversion process or after natural leakage, e.g. during storage or transport.

Conversion rate

See "Conversion factor".

Co-product

If a substance arises in a process, the main purpose of which is not directed towards the production of this substance, it is to be regarded as a co-product if it is ensured that the substance will continue to be used, no further pre-treatment beyond a normal industrial process is required for this, the substance is produced as an integral part of a production process and the further use is lawful. The further use is lawful if the substance fulfils all product, environmental and health protection requirements applicable to its respective use and does not have any harmful effects on humans or the environment.

Corrective measure(s)

One or more measures for improvement, correction or adjustment.

Dealer/trader

Any natural or legal person in the supply chain who makes a product available on the market.

Default value

A value derived from a typical value by applying specified factors, which may be used instead of an actual value under the conditions laid down in Directive (EU) 2018/2001.

Desk audits

A desk audit is an audit that does not/cannot take place on site at a scheme participant's premises. Conformity with the requirements of the REDcert-EU scheme is verified by qualified individuals on the basis of the documents submitted.

Directive (EU) 2018/2001 (RED II)

Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (new version).

Direct line

Direct line as defined in Article 2, point (41), of Directive 2019/944 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Document inspection

Document inspection is the examination of documents carried out as part of an audit. The document inspection is generally part of an on-site audit. However, a desk audit also involves a document inspection.

Documentary proof

Documentary proof is a document that provides proof of scheme conformity for individual requirement criteria or parts thereof.

Drainage

Drainage is defined as a reduction of the average annual water level due to an increased water loss or a reduced water supply as a result of human activities or installations both inside and outside of an area.

Economic operator

An economic operator is a producer of raw material, a collector of waste and residues, an operator of installations processing raw material into final fuels or intermediate products, an operator of installations producing energy (electricity, heating or cooling) or any other operator, including of storage facilities or traders that are in physical possession of raw material or fuels, provided that they process information on the sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving characteristics of those raw materials or fuels.

Expired certificate

A certificate that is no longer valid.

Feedback

It means the provision to the reporting person of information on the action envisaged or taken as follow-up and on the grounds for such follow-up (Directive (EU) 2019/1937).

First gathering points

A first gathering point is a storage or processing facility that receives raw materials from producers for the first time from an economic operator or other counterparty. As an interface, the first gathering point is subject to certification.

Follow-up audit

In a "follow-up audit" the implementation of corrective measures is verified. These are required if, during an initial or re-certification audit, there were non-conformities with the REDcert-EU requirements that would prevent the participant from joining the scheme or lead to the loss of an existing certification.

Fuels

Fuels that are ready to be supplied for consumption, including biofuels, bioliquids, biomass fuels, renewable liquid and gaseous transport fuels of non-biological origin and recycled carbon fuels.

Fuels producer

An economic operator that produces renewable liquid and gaseous transport fuel of non-biological origin.

Fulfilment levels

Extent to which specified scheme requirements are met. The scheme operator distinguishes between complete compliance (compliant), almost complete compliance (minor), partial compliance (major) and non-compliance (critical or KO).

GHG emissions

GHG emissions (greenhouse gas emissions) are caused by the emission of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, for example through the combustion of biomass or fossil fuels.

Grassland

According to Article 1(1) 1307/2014 (EU), grassland means terrestrial ecosystems dominated by herbaceous or shrub vegetation for at least five years continuously. It includes meadows or pasture that is cropped for hay but excludes land cultivated for other crop production and cropland lying temporarily fallow.

Greenhouse gases

Greenhouse gases (GHG) are gases (CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, etc.) in the atmosphere that prevent the heat from being reflected back into space from the earth's surface. The natural concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere ensures an average temperature of 15°C. The additional emission of greenhouse gases by human activity further heats up the climate and results in climate change.

Greenhouse gas emissions per unit of energy

The total mass of CO₂-equivalent GHG emissions associated with the biomass fuel or energy input divided by the total energy content of the biomass fuel or energy input (expressed as its lowest calorific value in the case of biomass fuel).

Greenhouse gas emission saving

The greenhouse gas emission saving (GHG) is the savings of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions expressed as a percentage when using sustainable biomass, liquid biofuels, biomass fuels (transport sector) and biofuels compared to fossil fuels to generate electricity or heat.

Group

A group is an association of several economic operators. The group does not have to be an independent legal entity. However, all of the operations in the group must be legally or contractually affiliated with the main office of the group and be integrated into a common administrative system defined and set up by the main office which is monitored and controlled internally.

Group certification

Group certification is the certification of a group of companies where the certification applies to the group as a whole (see also "Group inspection").

Group inspection

Group inspections are possible for operations which are members of a group and supply raw materials to the first gathering point.

Group manager/group administrator

The group manager manages a group and its members and monitors and checks compliance with scheme requirements within the group. The group manager is responsible for management of the audit process and communication between the certification body and the group members.

Group member

A group member is an economic operator that belongs to a group with other economic operators. Group members must submit a self-declaration to the group manager (see also "Group").

Hard IP procedure

A mass balancing method whereby economic operators ensure that no supply of biomass or biomass fuel is mixed with other products. It also has to be ensured that the sustainable product can be identified as sustainable throughout the entire process with no changes. Individual consignments that are certified as sustainable are kept strictly separate from other products and raw materials during processing and storage so that their original characteristics are retained through to the end of the supply chain.

Highly biodiverse forest

Highly biodiverse forest and other wooded land is defined as forest and other wooded land that is non-degraded and species-rich or has been identified as being highly biodiverse by the relevant competent authority.

Humus

Humus is defined as the totality of dead organic matter in the soil. Humus is a complex mixture of organic substances of plant, animal and microbial origin, which is subject to permanent decomposition, conversion and formation processes. The humus reserves in the soil vary in stability and life span.

Hydrogen system

Describes a system of infrastructure, including hydrogen networks, hydrogen storage, and hydrogen terminals, which contains hydrogen of a high grade of purity.

ILUC (Indirect land use change)

Indirect land-use change occurs when the cultivation of crops for biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels displaces traditional production of crops for food and feed purposes. Such

additional demand increases the pressure on land and can lead to the extension of agricultural land into areas with high-carbon stock, such as forests, wetlands and peatland, causing additional greenhouse gas emissions.

Imbalance settlement period

It means an imbalance settlement period as defined in Article 2, point (15) of Regulation (EU) 2019/943 within the Union, or an equivalent concept for third countries.

Individual audit

In the case of an individual audit, the inspection is carried out at a specific individual (stand-alone) operation and is site-specific. The successfully audited unit is issued a certificate of conformity.

Initial audit/certification audit

A certification audit means an initial audit before participation in a scheme, with the purpose of issuing a certificate under a voluntary scheme. The initial audit is the first verification and assessment of compliance with the REDcert EU requirements prior to certification of an economic operator.

Inspection

“Inspection” is generally understood as a review of a factual situation by a neutral person or institution for the purpose of confirming conformity. Since the inspection is carried out by a neutral institution, it is also referred to as “neutral inspection”. The REDcert-EU document “Scheme principles for neutral inspections” describes requirements and specifications for neutral inspections.

Inspection certificate

The certificate of conformity following a successful inspection. Economic operators that fulfil the requirements of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 but are not themselves interfaces are issued an **inspection certificate**.

In the REDcert-EU scheme, group members are issued an inspection certificate on request as part of group certification.

Installation generating renewable electricity

Individual units or groups of units, producing electricity in one or several locations from the same or from different renewable sources, as defined in Article 2, point (1) of Directive (EU) 2018/2001, excluding units producing electricity from biomass and storage units.

Integrated pest management

Integrated pest management aims to ensure that products are safe and of high quality while minimising the use of pesticides and other chemical plant protection products. This goal is achieved through various preventative measures. It requires continuous monitoring and analysis of all conditions that affect plant growth.

Integrity management

Integrity management is understood as the totality of all activities or measures that build confidence in the REDcert-EU certification scheme, its reliability and its quality, by reporting and/or prosecuting non-scheme-compliant behaviour and by investigating other unwanted incidents.

Interconnected infrastructure

Describes a system of infrastructures, including pipelines, LNG terminals and storage facilities, which transports gases, that primarily consist of methane and include biogas and gas from biomass, in particular biomethane, or other types of gas that can technically and safely be injected into, and transported through the natural gas pipeline system, hydrogen systems as well as pipeline networks and transmission or distribution infrastructures for liquid fuels.

Interested parties

“Interested party” means any natural or legal person, entity, body or authority with a legitimate interest in the REDcert-EU scheme.

Interface

Interfaces are the operations subject to certification along the production and supply chain, starting with the operations where biomass is first introduced into the processing chain (first gathering points/collection points).

Last interfaces

A last interface is a certifiable operation that converts biofuels, bioliquids, biomass fuels to a quality level where they can be used as “fuel”.

Legal predecessor

Is an economic operator that has been legally replaced by a new one, but no substantive changes or only superficial ones have been made regarding its ownership, management composition, working methods or scope of activity.

Life cycle greenhouse gas emissions

All net emissions of greenhouse gases attributable to the biomass fuel or energy supply (including any admixture). This includes all relevant stages of production or cultivation, including land use change, transport and distribution, processing and combustion, regardless of where these emissions occur.

Ligno-cellulosic material

Material composed of lignin, cellulose and hemicellulose, such as forestry biomass, woody energy crops and forestry residues and waste.

Logistical facilities

Logistical facilities are defined in the REDcert-EU scheme as locations where goods (biomass or waste/residuals) are only provided for transport, where no mixing or changes to the container or the product itself may take place. Short-term storage for the purpose of transshipment must not normally exceed 24 hours.

Mass balance system

A process which establishes a connection between information or claims related to raw materials or intermediate and end products.

Mix of raw material for the purpose of further processing

Describes the physical mixing of raw material for the sole purpose of producing biofuels, bioliquids or biomass fuels.

Monitoring

In the REDcert EU system, the term “monitoring” mainly refers to the collection and evaluation of information on compliance with the scheme requirements. It is a way to ensure system integrity.

Native tree species

Tree species which have evolved in the same area, region or biotope where the forest stand is growing and area adapted to the specific ecological conditions predominant at the time of the establishment of the stand.

Neutral inspections

See “Inspections”.

Non-conformity

Means non-compliance of an economic operator or certification body with the rules and procedures, established by the voluntary scheme, of which they are members or under which they operate.

Non-food cellulosic material

Feedstock mainly composed of cellulose and hemicellulose, and having a lower lignin content than ligno-cellulosic material, including food and feed crop residues, such as straw, stover, husks and shells; grassy energy crops with a low starch content, such as ryegrass,

switchgrass, miscanthus, giant cane; cover crops before and after main crops; ley crops; industrial residues, including from food and feed crops after vegetal oils, sugars, starches and protein have been extracted; and material from biowaste. Ley and cover crops are understood to be temporary, short-term sown pastures comprising grass-legume mixture with a low starch content to obtain fodder for livestock and improve soil fertility for obtaining higher yields of arable main crops

NUTS value

Emission value for the biomass types in specific level 2 regions of the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS2 regions) reported by member states (where available) in accordance with Article 31(2) of Directive (EU) 2018/2001.

Office audit

Within the scope of an "office audit", the quality of selected certification processes is verified at certification bodies on site.

Operating site

An operating site is a dependent location of an operation, which is or can also be subject to inspection within the REDcert-EU certification of the so-called interface. Operating sites can be, for example, (goods) warehouses or silos.

Operation

Operations are economic, independent economic units (see also "Interface").

Other wooded areas

Areas not classified as "forest" with an area of more than 1 hectare and trees higher than 5 metres and a canopy cover of 5-10% or trees able to reach these limits in situ; or with a combined canopy cover of shrubs, bushes and trees of more than 10%. It does not include land that is mainly used for agricultural or urban purposes.

Peatland soil

Peatland soil is soil that, when analysed up to a depth of 60 cm, exhibits organic material (peat substrate) in horizontal layers with a total thickness of at least 30 cm. The mass of the organic material is at least 20% organic carbon in the fine soil.

Permanent crops

Permanent crops are perennial crops with stems not normally harvested every year.

Polygon

A polygon is a plane figure bounded by edges that are all straight lines (Greek polys = many, gony = angle). A polygon is uniquely defined by the coordinates of its angles. By measuring the individual distances and the angles of refraction or direction, the coordinates of all points can be calculated. The measurement of larger areas or lines is often based on a polygon.

Primary forests

Naturally regenerated forest of native tree species, where there are no clearly visible indications of human activities and the ecological processes are not significantly disturbed.

Producers/production operations

Producers or production operations are operations that produce, grow and harvest biomass as a feedstock for the production of biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels.

Product

A product is a material that was intentionally created within a production process. A product is the result of a technical decision.

Product group

Product groups means raw materials, biofuels, bioliquids, non-gaseous biomass fuels with similar physical and chemical characteristics and similar heating values or gaseous biomass fuels, and LNG with similar chemical characteristics that all are subject to the same rules set out in Articles 7, 26 and 27 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 for determining the contribution of biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels towards achieving the targets for renewable energy.

Proof of sustainability

Proof of sustainability is a declaration by an economic operator, made on the basis of a certificate issued by a certification body within the framework of a voluntary scheme certifying the compliance of a specific quantity of feedstock or fuels with the sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions savings criteria set out in Article 29 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001;

Raw material

Raw materials means substances that have not yet been processed into fuels including intermediate products.

Re-certification audit

A re-certification audit means an audit with the purpose of renewing a certificate issued by a certification body within the framework of a voluntary scheme. An "initial audit" must precede a "re-certification audit". It is used to renew a certificate issued by a certification body under a voluntary scheme.

Recognised national scheme

A national scheme means a national scheme recognised pursuant to Article 30(6) of Directive (EU) 2018/2001.

Recognised voluntary scheme

A voluntary certification scheme means a voluntary scheme recognised pursuant to Article 30(4) of Directive (EU) 2018/2001.

Recycled Carbon Fuels (RCFs)

Liquid and gaseous fuels that are produced from liquid or solid waste streams of non-renewable origin which are not suitable for material recovery in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2008/98/EC, or from waste processing gas and exhaust gas of non-renewable origin which are produced as an unavoidable and unintentional consequence of the production process in industrial installations.

RED II

RED II is the abbreviation for the Directive (EU) 2018/2001 to promote the use of energy produced from renewable sources (Renewable Energy Directive).

REDcert-EU scheme

The REDcert-EU scheme is the certification scheme based on the European Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (2018/2001/EC) and serves to implement the requirements described therein.

Renewable Liquid and Gaseous Transport Fuels of non-Biological Origin (RFNBOs)

Liquid or gaseous fuels which are used in the transport sector other than biofuels or biogas, the energy content of which is derived from renewable sources other than biomass.

Remote audit

A remote audit is a method, permitted only under certain conditions, of carrying out an audit no longer solely on site with the physical presence of the people involved, but virtually with the aid of suitable information and communication technologies (ICT).

Report

Report or “to report” means, the written communication of information on breaches (Directive (EU) 2019/1937).

Reporting Person

Reporting person means a natural person who reports or publicly discloses information on breaches acquired in the context of his or her work-related activities (Directive (EU) 2019/1937).

Residue (from processing)

Residue means a substance that is not the end product(s) that a production process directly seeks to produce; it is not a primary aim of the production process and the process has not been deliberately modified to produce. it

Risk

A risk is the possibility of an incident which has an adverse effect on the certification scheme or the scheme operator or its integrity.

Risk assessment

Risk assessment is the systematic process of assessing potential risks that may be associated with an activity or undertaking.

Risk management

Risk management comprises all activities for the assessment, evaluation and prioritisation of risks as well as their avoidance, prevention and minimisation.

Sample inspections

An external review by the neutral certification body at the level of the biomass producer/waste producer for group certification or the inspection of dependent operating sites.

Sanction

Measure to penalise non-scheme-compliant behaviour.

Sanction management system

The sanction management system describes how the scheme operator systematically deals with all incidents involving non-scheme-compliant behaviour within the REDcert-EU system. The sanction management system is part of the integrity management system of the scheme operator.

Scheme audit

An external review of the REDcert requirements for interfaces or scheme participants by the neutral certification body.

Scheme conformity

The term "scheme conformity" means the conformity of the behaviour of the scheme participant but also of a certification body with the requirements of the REDcert-EU scheme.

Scheme integrity

Behaviour in accordance with the rules, regulations and laws within the REDcert-EU system

Scheme operator

A company that operates a certification scheme. In this context, REDcert is the scheme operator, and the REDcert-EU scheme is the certification scheme.

Scheme participant

An economic operator (natural or legal person) who is a contract party to REDcert and participates in the REDcert-EU scheme. Scheme participants bear the risk for the obligations under the REDcert-EU scheme for which they are responsible.

Self-declaration

Self-declarations confirm compliance with the requirements of Article 29 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 by agricultural biomass producers vis-à-vis the first collectors or by waste and residue producers vis-à-vis the collectors/collection points.

Shadow audit

A "shadow audit" is an unannounced on-site audit of a scheme participant.

Site

Site is defined as a geographical location, logistical facilities, transmission or distribution infrastructures with precise boundaries within which products can be mixed.

Smart metering system

It means smart metering system as define in Article 2, point (23) of Directive 2019/944

Soft IP procedure

A mass balancing method which keeps sustainable and non-sustainable biomass separate. Under certain conditions, however, consignments of sustainable products can also be mixed with products with other sustainability characteristics if they belong to the same product group or for the purpose of further processing (e.g. in a co-digestion plant).

Soil compaction

Soil compaction is considered to be the process of reducing the total volume of the soil by pressing or settlement. Soil compaction is defined as the increase in soil density (g/cm^3) or the corresponding decrease in pore content (vol.%).

Soil erosion

Soil erosion is defined as the erosion of the soil by water and wind which goes beyond the scope of natural erosion processes and which is aided or triggered by soil management.

Special audit

Special audits are carried out in addition to the regular scheme audits when a violation is suspected or when crises or incidents occur or for other reasons. In addition, special audits also represent a quality assurance measure of the scheme operator.

Suppliers

Suppliers are economic operators who supply sustainable biomass, bioliquids and biofuels to the next recipient in the chain. A distinction is made in the scheme between "suppliers before the last interface" and "suppliers after the last interface".

Suppliers before the last interface

Economic operators who supply biomass or biomass fuels, after their initial production/collecting, to the next recipient up to the last interface.

Suppliers after the last interface

Economic operators that supply liquid biofuels after production through the last interface up to the plant operator or those required to provide proof that they satisfy the requirements to the next recipient in the chain.

Subject to certification

An operation is subject to certification if it needs a certificate to prove that it fulfils the requirements of RED II.

SURE

Abbreviation for "SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES Verification Scheme".

SURE-EU system

The SURE-EU system is the certification scheme based on the European Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (2018/2001/EC) and serves to implement the requirements described therein.

Surveillance audit

A surveillance audit is any follow up audit of certificates issued by a certification body within the framework of a voluntary scheme after certification and before a re-certification audit, which can be carried out quarterly, half-annually or annually.

Suspended certificate

A certificate temporarily invalidated due to nonconformities identified by the certification body or upon voluntary request of the economic operator.

Sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving characteristics

The set of information describing a consignment of raw material or fuel that is required for demonstrating compliance of that consignment with the sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria for biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels.

Terminated certificate

A certification that has been voluntarily cancelled while it is still valid.

Traceability chain

Chronological documentation of a process. It is a tool used to track material through every step in the process.

Typical value

The typical value is an estimate of the greenhouse gas emissions and the corresponding green-house gas savings from a specific production pathway of biofuels, bioliquids or biomass fuels.

Union database

The database provided for in Article 28, point 2 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001.

Voluntary certification scheme

Voluntary scheme means an organisation that certifies the compliance of economic operators with criteria and rules including, but not limited to, the sustainability and greenhouse gas saving criteria set out in Directive (EU) 2018/2001 and in Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/807.

Waste

Waste means waste as defined in point (1) of Article 3 of Directive 2008/98/EC, excluding substances that have been intentionally modified or contaminated in order to meet this definition.

Waste and residue producers

Companies that supply waste or residues to collection points, treatment or processing operations.

Wetlands

Wetlands are land that is covered with or saturated by water permanently or for a significant part of the year. Wetlands include, in particular, swamps, marshes or bogs, as well as other bodies of water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres.

Withdrawn certificate

A certificate that has been permanently cancelled by the certification body or the voluntary scheme.

Witness audit

A witness audit is the observation of an audit carried out by a REDcert employee (or a person appointed by REDcert) who observes an audit performed by an auditor or team of auditors from a certification body appointed by REDcert without interference or influence.

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