Issued on 13 June 2013 in Helsinki

Government Decree on the Certification of Origin of Electricity

In accordance with the Government decision, the following is stipulated under the Act on Certification and Disclosure of Origin of Electricity (1129/2003):

Section 1

Information contained in a guarantee of origin for electricity produced from renewable sources of energy

In addition to what is provided in the Act on Certification and Disclosure of Origin of Electricity (1129/2003), a guarantee of origin for electricity produced from renewable sources of energy must contain the following information:

1) the name, location, type, capacity and inauguration date of the power plant;

2) the source of energy used to produce the energy, as well as the start and end date of production;

3) mention of whether the guarantee of origin applies to electricity or heating or cooling;

4) investment support received by the power plant after 4 December 2010 and amount of support;

5) support received by the energy unit from some other national support system after 4 December 2010, the type of support system and reference to the relevant authority/authorities who can provide information on the amount of support; and

6) the date of issuing, issuing country and an individual ID number for the guarantee of origin.

Section 2

Information contained in a guarantee of origin for electricity produced using high-efficiency cogeneration

In addition to what is provided in the Act on Certification and Disclosure of Origin of Electricity (1129/2003), a guarantee of origin for electricity produced using high-efficiency cogeneration must contain the following information:

1) the name, location, type, capacity and inauguration date of the power plant;

2) the lower heat value of the fuel source from which the electricity is produced;

3) the amount and purpose of the heat produced with the electricity;

4) the amount of electricity obtained from high-efficiency cogeneration that is covered by the guarantee of origin;

5) the primary energy savings that have been calculated on the basis of the harmonised efficiency reference values referred to in point (f) of Annex II of the Directive 2012/27/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on energy efficiency, amending Directives 2009/125/EC and 2010/30/EU and repealing Directives 2004/8/EC and 2006/32/EC.

6) the nominal electricity and heat efficiency for the power plant;

7) the investment support received by the power plant and the amount of the support;

8) support received by the energy unit from some other national support system, the type of support system and reference to the relevant authority/authorities who can provide information on the amount of support; and

9) the date of issuing, issuing country and an individual ID number for the guarantee of origin.

Section 3

Verification of the production method at the power plant and the energy sources it uses

Verification of the method of production at a power plant and the energy sources it uses performed by a verifier is valid for five years from the date the verification certificate is issued. Verification can also be done for a period of less than five years.

Verification performed in the European Energy Certificate System (EECS) and an approval decision made on the basis of section 15 of the Act on Production Subsidy for Electricity Produced from Renewable Energy Sources (1396/2010) is considered equivalent to verification as referred to in the Act on Certification and Disclosure of Origin of Electricity. However, if the verification or approval decision was made for a period longer than five years, it shall be considered valid in the guarantee of origin system for five years from the date the verification certificate or approval decision was issued.

Section 4

Information contained in a verification certificate

In addition to what is provided in the Act on Certification and Disclosure of Origin of Electricity (1129/2003), a verification certificate and its appendices must contain the following information:

1) power plant name, location and time of commissioning;

2) power plant owner's address, telephone number and e-mail address;

3) power plant capacity in megavolt-amperes and estimated volume of annual energy production;

4) information about the power plant's production method and energy sources it uses;

5) for a multi-fuel plant unit, information about the method used to specify the production shares of fuels and the method used for measuring fuel flows;

6) the power plant's main electrical and steam diagrams, indicating the power plant's connection to the electricity grid and the method used for measuring the energy produced by the power plant.

7) information concerning the method used for measuring the energy produced by the power plant, indicating metering points, metering data calculation methods including the auxiliary use of energy produced by the power plant, method of ensuring the reliability of metering data, and the method of reporting metering data; and

8) for a shared power plant, information about the shareholders and information about how the electricity produced by the power plant is divided among the shareholders.

Section 5

Connecting a power plant to the system of guarantees of origin of electricity

The power plant owner must apply to the registrar for connection of the power plant to the system of guarantees of origin of electricity before the issuing of guarantees of origin can begin. The original verification certificate and its appendices must be attached to the application.

Section 6

Reporting changes in conditions during the validity of verification

During the validity period of a verification, the power plant owner must report to the registrar any essential changes occurring in the technical features of the power plant's production method or in the energy sources that it uses, as well as any changes in the shareholders of a shared power plant.

Section 7

Applying for a guarantee of origin of electricity

A power plant owner must disclose to the registrar the electricity amount for which the guarantees of origin are applied, and the calendar month and year of electricity production. When disclosing the electricity amount and time of production, the same electronic format shall be observed as that used to report electricity deliveries in accordance with the Electricity Market Act (386/1995). The registrar can also approve another method of disclosure.

If the guarantee of origin is sought for electricity produced in a multi-fuel unit, the power plant owner must provide the registrar with the information about fuel use at the unit, itemised by fuel, that is needed to determine the amount of electricity produced from renewable energy sources. This information must be provided in the manner stated by the registrar.

Section 8

Calculating the residual mix

The residual mix is calculated for a specific calendar year from the amounts of different energy sources that are used to produce electricity in Finland and to produce electricity imported to Finland during the year in question. When calculating the residual mix, the amount of energy equivalent to cancelled guarantees of origin for the calendar year in question must be subtracted from the amount of electricity produced with renewable sources of energy. Furthermore, the residual mix must take into account the physical export of electricity and the energy amounts equivalent to the import, export and expiry of guarantees of origin in order to prevent double calculation.

The residual mix must be calculated according to the best information available.

If the amount of different energy sources used to calculate electricity production in accordance with subsection 1 differs from the amount of electricity sold to electricity users during the calendar year, the amount of energy sources and electricity sold shall primarily be adjusted using the European residual mix. If the European residual mix is not available, the national shares of energy sources used to produce electricity in accordance with subsection 1 or some other calculation method that does not result in double calculation of electricity produced from renewable sources of energy shall be used instead.

Section 9

Entry into force

This Decree takes effect on 1 July 2013. However, section 8 of the Decree shall only take effect on 1 January 2014.

This decree repeals the Government Decree on the Certification of Origin of Electricity (1357/2003).

13 June 2013, Helsinki

Minister of Economic Affairs
Jan Vapaavuori

Senior Inspector
Perttu Wasenius