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Government Decree on Verification of Origin of Electricity

(1357/2003)

In accordance with the Government decision made on the submission of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the following is enacted by virtue of the Act on Verification and Notification of Origin of Electricity (1129/2003) given on 19 December 2003:

Section 1 - *Scope*

This Act is applied to verification of the origin of electricity, laid down in the Act on Verification and Notification of Origin of Electricity (1129/2003).

Section 2 – *Definitions*

For the purposes of this Decree:

(1) *renewable energy sources* mean wind-, solar-, geothermal-, wave- and tidal energy, as well as hydropower, biomass, landfill gases, gases from sewage treatment plants and biogases;

(2) *biomass* means the biodegradable fraction of products, waste and residues from the vegetable and animal substances of agriculture and forestry and the biodegradable fraction of products, waste and residues from related industries, as well as the biodegradable fraction of industrial and municipal waste;

(3) *electricity generated from renewable energy sources* means electricity generated at power plants solely using renewable energy sources and the portion of electricity generated at power plants using renewable and other energy sources that is produced from renewable energy sources, as well as electricity generated from renewable energy sources that is used for filling the storage systems, except for electricity produced by the storage systems;

(4) *auxiliaries* mean the equipment and machinery that are needed at a power plant for generating electricity or heat and power and for upkeeping production readiness and that are needed for removing or reducing environmental hazards caused by the power plant; and

(5) *multi-fuel unit* means a power plant where two or more fuels can be used simultaneously or alternately.

Section 3 – *Electricity within the scope of the guarantee of origin scheme*

A guarantee of origin of electricity may be issued for electricity that has been generated from renewable energy sources, except for electricity that is spent in a power plant's auxiliaries producing electricity or co-generating heat and power.

Section 4 – *Supplementary provisions on information included in guarantees of origin*

A guarantee of origin of electricity shall include the following complementary information:

- (1) as regards electricity generated by hydropower, indication of the power plant's capacity in megavolt amperes; and
- (2) as regards electricity generated at a shared power plant, mention that the electricity has been generated at a shared power plant and an indication of the stake of the holder of a power plant share.

Section 5 – *Verification of a power plant's production method and the energy sources used*

A verification issued by an assessment body is valid for five years as from the issue of the verification certificate. The verification may also be issued for a period shorter than five years.

A verification issued in the European Renewable Energy Certificate System, RECS, is considered equal to verification referred to in the Act on Verification and Notification of Origin of Electricity. Where this verification has been issued for a period longer than five years, the verification is, however, considered to be valid for five years in the guarantee of origin system as from the issue of the verification certificate.

Section 6 – *Further provisions on information included in a verification certificate*

A verification certificate or its appendices shall include the following information:

- (1) name, location and date of commissioning of the power plant;
- (2) address and telephone number of the power plant operator and a possible e-mail address;
- (3) output of the power plant in megavolt amperes and the estimated annual volume of energy production;
- (4) specification of the power plant's production method and the energy sources it uses;
- (5) as for the multi-fuel unit, specification of the method of determining the production shares of fuels and method of measuring fuel flows;
- (6) the power plant's main electricity and steam diagrams indicating the power plant's connection to the electricity network and the way in which measuring the energy produced by the power plant has been arranged;
- (7) information on the method of measuring the energy produced by a power plant indicating the measurement locations, methods of calculating measurement data, including the internal consumption of the electricity produced by the power plant, method of ensuring the reliability of measurement data and method of notifying measurement data; and
- (8) as for a shared power plant, information on the stakeholders and the ways in which the electricity produced by the power plant is shared among the stakeholders.

Section 7 – Connection of a power plant to the guarantee of origin system of electricity

A power plant operator shall apply for the power plant's connection to the guarantee of origin system from the issuer of the guarantee of origin before the issue of the guarantees of origin can be started. An original verification certificate with annexes shall be appended to the application.

Section 8 – Notification of changes in circumstances occurring during the validity of the verification

A power plant operator shall notify the issuer of a guarantee of origin of any significant changes occurring in the technical properties of the power plant's production method or in the energy sources it uses during the validity of the verification, as well as any changes of the stakeholders in a shared power plant.

Section 9 – Applying for a guarantee of origin of electricity

The power plant operator shall notify the issuer of the guarantee of origin of the volume of electricity for which a guarantee of origin is applied and the period of time during which the electricity has been produced. The same electronic form of message that has been laid down for notifications of measured electricity deliveries in the procedures concerning electricity deals shall be applied. The issuer of the guarantee of origin may also accept some other method of notification.

If a guarantee of origin is applied for electricity generated in a multi-fuel unit, the power plant operator shall notify the issuer of the guarantee of origin of the information on the unit's use of fuels by fuel, required by the analysis of the electricity volume generated from renewable energy sources. The information shall be given in a manner required by the issuer of the guarantee of origin.

Section 10 – Further provisions on the rectification procedure concerning the decisions by the issuer of a guarantee of origin and an assessment body

A rectification request may be made by a power plant operator or a holder of a power plant share to which the decision has been directed or whose right, obligation or interest the decision directly affects.

The request for rectification shall be made in writing. It shall indicate:

- (1) the decision for which rectification is applied for;
- (2) what parts of the decision are subject to the rectification and what amendments are called for it; and
- (3) the grounds on which rectification is applied for.

The rectification request guidelines shall state:

- (1) the instance handling the rectification request;
- (2) the deadline for filing in a rectification request and the manner in which it is calculated;
- (3) information on the delivery of the rectification request; and

(4) information on the requirements for the form and content laid down for a rectification request.

Section 11 – *Entry into force*

This Act enters into force on 1 January 2004.

Measures necessary for the implementation of this Act may be undertaken before the Act's entry into force.