

Domain Protocol - RECS Ireland

Version 2r1



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II Document Control

I.a Authorities

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I.b Distribution

Name	Organisation
Members	Irish RECS Team
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I.c Change History

This version 2r1 is a final version following AIB assessment and is intended for release.

A INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

A.1 Introduction

- A.1.1 Certification of the quality and method of energy output provides an efficient mechanism for accounting for: the quality of energy supplied to consumers and its method of production; the progress made towards targets for the use of sustainable energy technologies; and the production and consumption of energy for the purposes of stimulating investment in sustainable energy plant. Moreover, certification enables a value to be accorded to specific types of energy output and traded separately from the energy itself.
- A.1.2 For a system of energy certification to discharge these functions effectively, users of the Certificates – producers, traders, suppliers, consumers, NGO's and governments – must be satisfied that the Certificates provide reliable evidence of the qualities to which they relate. The European Energy Certification System (EECS) framework is designed to give all such users confidence in the Certificates issued and processed under EECS.
- A.1.3 The life cycle of a Renewable Energy Certificate (RECS Certificate) encompasses three phases: issuance, transfer and redemption:
- (a) Electronic Certificates are issued on registries in respect the energy output of Production Devices registered specifically for the purposes of RECS.
 - (b) These Certificates may be transferred from the account of the producer to that of a trader, and so on; either within the country of origin or to other registries in the EECS network across Europe.
 - (c) Redemption is the mechanism whereby the Certificate is removed from circulation. Redemption occurs at the point at which the value of the Certificate is realised. Examples of circumstances in which the Redemption of a Certificate may occur include: in connection with payment from a consumer in recognition of the qualities it represents; in connection with the award by government of a financial incentive, such as a tax rebate; or by way of discharge of a contractual or legal obligation.
- A.1.4 Together with the Standard Terms and Conditions, this Domain Protocol establishes the EECS Scheme for the Domain defined in B.1.2 below.

A.2 Purpose

- A.2.1 This Domain Protocol sets out the procedures, rights and obligations for RECS as used within this Domain.
- A.2.2 This Domain Protocol is made binding between the Scheme Participant and Green Certificate Company by agreement in the form of the Standard Terms and Conditions. The duties under this Domain Protocol are owed specifically between Green Certificate Company and the Scheme Participant.
- A.2.3 The objective is to ensure quality in the robustness and transparency in facilitating RECS for all Scheme Participants.
- A.2.4 This document also contains explanatory text to help Scheme Participants. This text is for information only and is identified by having a shaded background.
- A.2.5 Important contact information is provided in Annex 1.

B SCOPE AND RESPONSIBILITY

B.1 This Domain Protocol

B.1.1 This Domain Protocol specifies the procedures for the issue, and use as evidence of transfer of ownership and eventually removal of RECS Certificates held within the EECS Registration Database of Green Certificate Company and may only be amended or added to by Green Certificate Company in accordance with section J below.

B.1.2 This Domain Protocol applies to generation devices located within the Republic of Ireland, in conjunction with RECS Certificates held within the EECS Registration Database.

B.2 Responsibility

B.2.1 Green Certificate Company is responsible for the operation of the RECS system for this Domain.

B.2.2 Some of the functions facilitating system operation may be contracted out to approved agents of Green Certificate Company.

B.2.3 Green Certificate Company has been appointed to perform the role of CMO for RECS Certificates for Republic of Ireland. The charges for accounts and transactions are shown on the website www.green-certificates.com.

B.2.4 Green Certificate Company is responsible for 'issuing'; the creation of Certificate records within its registry.

C DEFINITIONS

C.1 This document

- C.1.1 Unless the context otherwise requires or there is express provision to the contrary, all terms in this Domain Protocol shall have the meanings ascribed to them in section B of the Principles and Rules of Operation of the Association of Issuing Bodies (AIB) for The European Energy Certification System, which can be found at <http://www.aib-net.org>.

Term	Meaning
CMO	Green Certificate Company; being the person appointed to administer the operation of the EECS Registration Database for the purposes of RECS within Ireland.
Competent Authority	in relation to the exercise or discharge of any legislative, governmental, regulatory or administrative function, the body duly authorised under the laws and regulations of the republic of Ireland to exercise or discharge that function.
Scheme Participant	an Account Holder or a Registrant of a Production Device on the EECS Registration Database for the purposes of RECS within the Republic of Ireland.
Standard Terms and Conditions	the terms and conditions upon which Green Certificate Company provides issuing body services to Scheme Participants. These terms and conditions are contained in 'Terms & Conditions of Participation in Renewable Energy Certificate Scheme for Republic of Ireland'.

D RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE SYSTEM (RECS)

D.1 Scheme Definition

D.1.1 The 'Renewable Energy Certificate System' (RECS) enables international trade in the renewable attribute of energy generation by uncoupling environmental value from the associated physical energy. It is a voluntary system whose trading is governed by RECS International.

D.2 Supplementary Definitions for RECS

Term	Meaning
Net Electrical Energy Generation	the gross electricity production of a Production Device as evidenced by measured values collected and determined by an Authorised Body (or where appropriate an Approved Measurement Body) with reference to its Import and Export Meters (adjusted by meter amendments and the outcome of any disputes) minus the demand of any generating auxiliaries and minus losses in the main generator transformers on the site of the Production Device;
Renewable Source Factor	in relation to any Production Device and period of time the proportion expressed as a factor of less than one of the Net Electrical Energy Generation of that Production Device which is RES-E, as specified in the Production Declaration for that Production Device with respect to the period over which the electricity was generated.

D.3 Qualifying Criteria

D.3.1 The criteria for Production Devices to qualify for registration for the purposes of RECS are:

- (a) that the Production Device is capable of generating RES-E; and
- (b) that the owner of Production Device will not during the period of its registration for the purposes of RECS and for the same unit of electrical energy receive tradable evidence such as Certificates which represent the benefit of renewable electricity generation from both RECS and another similar system that similarly certifies the origin or represents the benefits of the associated renewable electricity and can be exchanged for financial support.

D.3.2 Qualifying energy must be RES-E.

D.3.3 The registration of a Production Device shall expire after five years. The Registrant is obliged to re-apply for registration for the Production Device before expiry.

D.3.4 To ensure maintenance of the Qualifying Criteria, a Production Audit will be conducted in relation to each Production Device in the Republic of Ireland which is Registered for the purposes of RECS:

- (a) no less than once every five years; and
- (b) where such Production Device is fuelled in whole or in part by biomass, no less than once a year.

D.4 Support Schemes

- D.4.1 Support schemes that are relevant to the operation of the RECS scheme are listed in AIB PRO Fact Sheet 3 – Types of Public Support. This document can be viewed at www.aib-net.org under the section: Association – Documents – Regulation – PRO.
- D.4.2 The Registrant of a Production Device must guarantee that the owner of the Production Device, or his agent, will not during the period of its registration for the purposes of RECS and for the same unit of electrical energy receive tradable evidence such as Certificates which represent the benefit of RES-E generation from both RECS and another similar system that similarly certifies the origin or represents the benefits of the associated renewable electricity and can be exchanged for financial support.
- D.4.3 The Registrant of a Production Device must notify Green Certificate Company whether, and if so what type of, Public Support has been, or is due to be, received by the Production Device.
- D.4.4 The Registrant of a Production Device must provide details of any prior infringements by itself or any affiliate of the terms of any Domain Scheme with respect to RECS to Green Certificate Company on application for registration.

D.5 Certificate Face Values

D.5.1 RECS Certificates can be Issued with the following Face Values:

- (a) 1MWh
- (b) 10MWh
- (c) 100MWh
- (d) 1 000MWh
- (e) 10 000MWh
- (f) 100 000MWh
- (g) 1 000 000MWh

D.6 Issuing of RECS Certificates

- D.6.1 This section is supplemental to the provisions of section G below.
- D.6.2 Where a Production Device only produces RES-E, the amount of RES-E determined for the purposes of RECS as having been produced by a Production Device shall be the amount of Net Electrical Energy Generation produced by that Production Device.
- D.6.3 Where a Production Device produces RES-E and electricity which is not RES-E, the amount of RES-E determined for the purposes of RECS as having been produced by a Production Device shall be the amount of Net Electrical Energy Generation produced by that Production Device multiplied by the Renewable Source Factor.
- D.6.4 RECS Certificates can be Issued in respect of output up to the entirety of the RES-E output of a Production Device in any period.
- D.6.5 Irrespective of the actual date on which a RECS Certificate is issued, the date of Issue of a RECS Certificate is the last day on which the energy output to which the RECS Certificate relates was generated.
- D.6.6 A RECS Certificate must indicate:

- (a) whether Public Support is associated with the Originating Production Device;
and
- (b) the nominated capacity (in kW) of the Originating Production Device.

E PARTICIPATION AND REGISTRATION

E.1 Scheme Participation

- E.1.1 Any legal person who is not a member of the Association of Issuing Bodies or such member's affiliate or agent can be a RECS Scheme Participant (see www.recs.org).
- E.1.2 The application form to open an Account or to make changes to an existing Account can be found in Annex 5 and on Green Certificate Company's website www.green-certificates.com.
- E.1.3 The RECS Scheme Participant must contract with Green Certificate Company under the Standard Terms and Conditions.
- E.1.4 Green Certificate Company will issue each authorised user with an identification and password to enable secure communications through its website. It is the responsibility of the Scheme Participant to keep such identification secret.
- E.1.5 On receipt of a completed Account application form, Green Certificate Company will issue initial user access information by first class post to the address given on the application form. This information will have time and usage expiry attributes and will need to be amended by the user for continued access.

E.2 Registration of a Production Device

- E.2.1 Only the owner of a Production Device, or a Registrant duly authorised by the owner, may register a Production Device, which is located in the Republic of Ireland in the EECS Registration Database.
- E.2.2 The Registrant of the Production Device must provide evidence to the satisfaction of Green Certificate Company that it has the appropriate authority to register the Production Device and that it can comply with the requirements of the RECS Scheme and this Domain Protocol with respect to the imposition of duties on the owner and/or operator of the Production Device. Such evidence being:
- if the Registrant is not the owner, a letter of authorisation from the owner signed by a director (if the owner is corporate); or
 - if the Registrant is the owner, proof of ownership.
- E.2.3 An applicant registering a Production Device must provide the following information:
- the applicant's name and address and additional contact details, including the name of the individual responsible for the application, phone number, fax number and e-mail address;
 - the names of persons authorised to act for the Registrant;
 - the EECS Scheme or Schemes with respect to which it is applying for registration;
 - the Transferables Account into which Scheme Certificates in respect of that Production Device are to be Issued;
 - the location of that Production Device, its name and address;
 - details of the Export Meter(s) for that Production Device;
 - details of any generating auxiliaries associated with that Production Device;
 - where there are generating auxiliaries associated with that Production Device, details of Import Meter(s) which determine the totality of electricity consumption by the Production Device;

- (i) (irrespective of whether or not there is any intention to use such sources of energy in connection with the Production Device) all sources of energy that may be converted into energy outputs by that Production Device by reference to the source types set out in Annex 3;
- (j) the nature of that Production Device, in terms of technology by reference to the types set out in Annex 3;
- (k) the Nominal Capacity of that Production Device;
- (l) where at the time of such application it has been commissioned, the date on which that Production Device was commissioned;
- (m) the identity of the Authorised Body or, where appropriate, Approved Measurement Body responsible for collecting and determining the measured values of the energy outputs of that Production Device and providing such measured values to Green Certificate Company;
- (n) a diagram of that Production Device, including details the location of:
 - (i) the Export Meter(s) for the Production Device;
 - (ii) any transformer substations at the site of the Production Device;
 - (iii) any generating auxiliaries for the Production Device; and
 - (iv) any Import Meters for the Production Device.

E.2.4 The registration form containing all the items listed in E.2.3 above can be found in Annex 2 to this Domain Protocol.

E.2.5 The Qualifying Criteria for a Production Device within the RECS scheme are given in D.3 above.

E.2.6 The Registrant must warrant that the information provided to Green Certificate Company in connection with its application is complete and accurate and that the Production Device meets the qualification criteria for RECS.

E.2.7 The Registrant must also provide details of any payments (other than payments arising from the sale of RECS Certificates) which have been received by, or are due to accrue to, any person in relation to the Production Device under any of the Public Support schemes identified in D.4 above.

E.2.8 Green Certificate Company will respond to the application within 3 working days from its receipt.

E.2.9 The Registrant must have the information in the registration form verified by a Production Registrar (see I.2.1 below) as part of the approval process.

E.2.10 Where the Production Device is already accredited to another EECS Scheme or legislative support scheme, Green Certificate Company may determine that part or all of the verification of this application is not required.

E.2.11 An application for the registration of a Production Device for the purposes of RECS will be rejected if:

- (a) in relation to that application, the applicant has failed to comply with any requirements of this Domain Protocol or the Standard Terms and Conditions;
- (b) the Qualification Criteria are not satisfied in respect to that Production Device;
- (c) there are one or more generating auxiliaries for that Production Device not fitted with Import Meters; or
- (d) the Production Registrar is prevented from satisfactorily verifying the application by the applicant or the owner or operator of the relevant Production Device.

- E.2.12 On successful completion of the registration process, Green Certificate Company will assign a unique identifier to each registered Production Device, if one has not already been assigned in that EECS Registration Database under another EECS Scheme.

The identifier consists of a number with 18 numeric characters that also identifies the Domain of origin. EAN/GSRN (Global Service Relational Number) coding is used.

- E.2.13 The Registrant consents to the publication by Green Certificate Company of data provided in the course of its application for registration in relation to each of its Production Device registered on the database on its web page www.green-certificates.com with the exception of:
- (a) detailed descriptions of plant and equipment;
 - (b) graphical representations of the Production Device and its location, including diagrams and photographs; and
 - (c) details of:
 - (i) the person responsible for the application; and
 - (ii) where the Registrant of the Production Device is not its owner, the Production Device's owner.

E.3 Changes in Registered Details

- E.3.1 The Registrant of a Production Device must notify Green Certificate Company of any planned changes due to come into effect that will result, or unplanned changes that have resulted, in:
- (a) the information recorded in the EECS Registration Database in relation to the Production Device becoming inaccurate; or
 - (b) the Qualification Criteria for RECS ceasing to be satisfied with respect to that Production Device.
- E.3.2 On receipt of a change of details notification (following an inspection or otherwise), Green Certificate Company will evaluate the impact of the changes on the Qualifying Criteria and respond to the Registrant within 3 working days specifying the decision taken.
- E.3.3 Where Green Certificate Company becomes aware that a Production Device no longer fulfils, or will no longer fulfil, the Qualification Criteria, the EECS Registration Database record for that Production Device will be updated to shown that the Production Device no longer qualifies for RECS Certificates with effect from:
- (a) (in relation to planned changes notified in advance) the date on which such planned changes are due to come into effect; or
 - (b) (in relation to other changes) as soon as reasonably practicable after becoming so aware.

E.4 Withdrawing from the Scheme - Closing an Account

- E.4.1 The Account Holder must notify Green Certificate Company of his intent to close his account using the form shown in Annex 5. The effective date of closure must not be less than 3 working days from the date of receipt by Green Certificate Company.
- E.4.2 Green Certificate Company will amend the EECS Registration Database to seal that Account as of the effective date on the request or 5 working days from the date of receipt by Green Certificate Company whichever is the later.
- E.4.3 The Account Holder will be liable for account charges up to the effective date of closure determined under E.4.2 above.

E.5 Withdrawing from the Scheme - Deregistering a Production Device

- E.5.1 The Registrant must notify Green Certificate Company of his intent to deregister his Production Device in writing. The period of notice shall not be less than one calendar month.
- E.5.2 Upon deregistration of a Production Device, Green Certificate Company will cease to issue RECS certificates in relation to that Production Device (see G.1.1 below).
- E.5.3 At the sole discretion of Green Certificate Company, a Production Device that has been deregistered from RECS may have to complete the full registration process should it subsequently be reregistered.

F Production Data

F.1 Metering

- F.1.1 Only Production Devices that are equipped with metering equipment that complies with the relevant regulations for the trading of generation energy shall be registered. The metering equipment may measure on a scalar basis (meter advance only) or on a period basis (energy measured in units of time) according to the regulations.
- F.1.2 For the avoidance of doubt, the relevant regulations are the versions of the following agreements and codes presently in force at the time:
- (a) The Grid Code (version 1.2)
 - (b) Trading and Settlement Code (version 2.0 and subsequent approved modifications)

F.2 Data Provision

- F.2.1 If the Registrant wishes to receive RECS Certificates for his Production Device in an issuing period, he must submit a Production Declaration to Green Certificate Company.
- (a) If the Production Device has a single energy source (excluding biomass and pumped storage hydro), a Production Declaration must be submitted at least once in any 12 month period for that Production Device.
 - (b) If the Production Device has multiple energy sources (including all biomass and pumped storage hydro), the Registrant must submit a Production Declaration for every issuing period as defined in G.1.2 below.

The Production Declaration form can be found in Annex 4 to this Domain Protocol.

- F.2.2 The Registrant is responsible for the timely delivery of accurate metering data for his Production Device, although metered energy values must be provided, or verified, by a Measurement Body (see I.3 below).
- F.2.3 Production Declarations are subject to verification by a Production Auditor (see I.1 below) on a random and periodic basis.
- F.2.4 In the event that it transpires that the data in any RECS Certificate is inaccurate (whether or not through an act or omission of the Registrant of the Originating Production Device):
- (a) Green Certificate Company shall (provided that such RECS Certificates are, at the time of such Withdrawal, in the Transferables Account of that Registrant) Withdraw those Certificates; and
 - (b) the Registrant shall pay Green Certificate Company the cost of securing the agreement of another Account Holder to the Withdrawal of RECS Certificates of the same type from that other Account Holder's Transferables Account,
- so that, as far as reasonably practicable, RECS Certificates are withdrawn with a Face Value and a financial value which make good the discrepancy.
- F.2.5 The Registrant must provide metering data for his Production Device for the entire duration of registration of that Production Device (regardless of whether the generation is eligible or certificates are required).

F.2.6 A person submitting a Production Declaration (See Annex 4) in accordance with **Error! Reference source not found.** shall be obliged to specify therein:

- (a) the values of M^i and C^i for each fuel type 'i'; and
- (b) the Energy Source Factor for that period, a factor no greater than L,

Where:

$$L^i = \frac{\sum_i^j M^i x C^i}{\sum_i^n M^i x C^i}$$

And

M^i is the mass of each fuel type 'i' for that Production Device during the relevant period.

C^i is the average calorific value of each fuel type 'i' for that Production Device during the relevant period.

i to j are qualifying energy sources for that Production Device during the relevant period.

j to n are not qualifying energy sources for that Production Device during the relevant period.

F.2.7 In some cases, additional information is required by the issuer to ensure the number of Certificates issued correctly represents the qualifying energy that was metered. These cases, and the additional information required is set out below:

- (a) Line loss values applicable to the transfer of energy between the Production Device site boundary and the metering point, from which the submitted energy values originate, for the period of generation.

F.2.8 For transmission connected Production Devices, the metering data should be provided using the Daily Generator Report (DGRP).

F.2.9 Production data should be submitted by email to data@green-certificates.com. A valid data set for an issuing period includes:

- (a) a DGRP for each day;
- (b) an energy settlements file containing line loss factor values for each settlement period; and
- (c) a Microsoft Excel compatible spreadsheet showing for each settlement period: the metered energy value at the site boundary, the line loss factor, and the settlement energy value at the trading point.

G PROCESSING OF CERTIFICATES

G.1 Issuing for Transfer

G.1.1 RECS Certificates are only issued under this Domain Protocol:

- (a) in respect of a Production Device which is, at the time of Issue:
 - (i) situated in the Republic of Ireland;
 - (ii) registered in the EECS Registration Database of Green Certificate Company as qualifying for RECS Certificates; and
 - (iii) the Registrant of which does not have any outstanding fees payable to Green Certificate Company or its agents in conjunction with RECS Certificates;
- (b) in respect of the entire qualifying energy output of such a Production Device during any period in which it was registered in an EECS Registration Database for the purposes of the RECS scheme; and
- (c) to an Account Holder who does not have any outstanding fees payable to Green Certificate Company or its agents in conjunction with RECS Certificates.

G.1.2 Subject to G.1.1 above RECS Certificates are issued on demand of the Registrant against energy data in accordance with F.2.2 above and metered during a month, if nothing else is agreed between the issuer and the Registrant.

G.1.3 Only persons duly authorised by the Registrant may request the issue of RECS Certificates in relation to the output of that Production Device. Requests for fewer Certificates than for the entire qualifying energy output should be made using a Production Declaration (section V).

G.1.4 Green Certificate Company will check the Production Declaration against the metered data provided for the Production Device for the period to which the Production Declaration relates. The EECS Registration Database will also be checked to ensure that no more than one RECS Certificate is Issued in respect of the same qualifying energy output.

G.1.5 Green Certificate Company will deposit the Certificates in the Transferables Account nominated by the Registrant within the EECS Registration Database no later than 10 working days after the receipt of a valid Production Declaration at the end of every month and the Account Holder will be notified accordingly. The Transferables Account will be that last notified by the Registrant on a Production Declaration (section I).

G.1.6 The RECS Certificates shall be issued in such format as may be determined by AIB from time to time.

G.1.7 A RECS Certificate identifies the entitlement of the Account Holder of the Transferables Account in which it is held to the attributes of:

- (a) the energy source for the quantity of energy output to which it relates; and/or
- (b) the method and quality of the production of such energy output;

so as to enable the Account Holder to realise such real and intangible benefits as may be accorded to such entitlement. These entitlements are dependant on the laws of the country in which the Originating Production Device is situated and the laws applicable in any Domain to which they may be transferred for realisation on Redemption.

G.2 Transfer

G.2.1 A RECS Account Holder can hold RECS Certificates in an account within the EECS Registration Database for the Republic of Ireland.

On request Green Certificate Company will open an account within 3 working days. The account will be uniquely identified by a number and a name.

G.2.2 The Account Holder can get secure electronic access to the Account to make transfers of Certificates to another Account in the same EECS Registration Database or to another EECS Registration Database for RECS Certificates in another Domain through the website www.green-certificates.com.

G.2.3 Only persons duly authorised by the Account Holder may request the transfer of RECS Certificates out of that Account Holder's Transferables Account. Authorised persons must be identified on the account application form (see Annex 5).

G.2.4 Where a Transfer Request is received with respect to one or more Scheme Certificates held in a Transferables Account on its EECS Registration Database, Green Certificate Company will, having confirmed that the Transfer Request is valid, in that it was made by an authorised person for that Transferables Account, the relevant Certificates exist in that Transferables Account and the receiving Transferables Account exists:

- (a) remove from that Transferables Account the details of the RECS Certificate(s) specified in the Transfer Request;
- (b) where the Transferee's Transferables Account specified in the Transfer Request is in the same EECS Registration Database:
 - (i) include the full details of the RECS Certificate(s) referred to in (a) above in the Transferee's Transferables Account;
 - (ii) confirm, to the Transferor, the identity of the RECS Certificates so transferred and any RECS Certificate split in connection with such transfer by reference to their unique identifying number(s) and Face Values; and
 - (iii) confirm, to the Transferee, the identity of the Transferor and of the RECS Certificates so transferred by reference to their unique identifying number and Face Values; and
- (c) where the Transferee's Transferables Account specified in the Transfer Request is on a different EECS Registration Database:
 - (i) notify the operator of that other EECS Registration Database of that Transfer Request;
 - (ii) subject to G.2.7 below, send the full details of the RECS Certificates referred to at (a) above to the operator of that other EECS Registration Database;
 - (iii) record on its own EECS Registration Database, the export of such RECS Certificates, and, where appropriate as a result of the operation of G.2.7, the cancellation of their status as Scheme Certificates under any EECS Scheme;
 - (iv) on receipt of confirmation from the operator of that other EECS Registration Database that the transfer has been completed, confirm to the Transferor the identity of the operator of that other EECS Registration Database and of the RECS Certificates so transferred and of any split in connection with such transfer by reference to their unique identifying numbers and Face Values.

- G.2.5 Where Green Certificate Company is notified by another EECS Registration Database operator of a Transfer Request including details of a RECS Certificate which are consistent with the Transfer Criteria for RECS Certificates together with the account number for a Transferables Account on its own EECS Registration Database, it will:
- insert the full details of that RECS Certificate in that Account Holder's Transferables Account;
 - confirm to the EECS Registration Database operator that notified it of such Transfer Request that the transfer of that RECS Certificate has been completed; and
 - confirm, to the Transferee, that such EECS Certificate has been transferred by reference to its unique identifying number and Face Value.
- G.2.6 Where Green Certificate Company is notified by another EECS Registration Database operator of a Transfer Request involving a Scheme Certificate which does not satisfy the Transfer Criteria for such RECS Certificates and/or receives an account number which does not correspond with an account number for a Transferables Account on its own EECS Registration Database, Green Certificate Company will use reasonable endeavours to exchange information such that the RECS Certificate can be rendered compliant with the RECS for the Republic of Ireland or the correct account number identified (as the case may be), failing which:
- the full details of the RECS Certificate shall be re-entered into the Transferor's Transferables Account on the relevant EECS Registration Database and that EECS Registration Database shall be amended so that the RECS Certificate is no longer recorded as having been exported; and
 - all details of the RECS Certificate shall be removed from the other EECS Registration Database.
- G.2.7 Where:
- Green Certificate Company receives a Transfer Request in respect of a RECS Certificate which is a Scheme Certificate under more than one EECS Scheme; and
 - the Transferee's Transferables Account specified in the Transfer Request is on a registry that is not part of RECS,
- the details of the RECS Certificate referred to in (c)(ii) above will be amended to remove any identifier indicating that the certificate is a RECS Certificate.
- G.2.8 Green Certificate Company will process a transfer request within the following deadlines:
- A request for transferral of RECS Certificates to an account in the same EECS Registration Database will be executed within 1 working day.
 - On a request for transferral of RECS Certificates to an account in a different EECS Registration Database, the export message will be sent to the receiving registry operator within 1 working day.
 - On receiving an export message, Green Certificate Company will execute that message within 1 working day.
 - A request for transferral of RECS Certificates to an account in a Registration Database that is outside the EECS network will be executed within 5 working days.

In many cases these processes are fully automated and will occur according to the operational timescales of the Transfer Link which may be significantly ahead of these processing deadlines.

G.2.9 The Account Holder is required to retain all records to which he has had access relating to RECS Certificates for a period not less than 10 years or such longer period as required by national legislation.

G.3 Redemption

G.3.1 Redemption is the removal of a Certificate from circulation and is the point at which it ceases to be tradable. Once in a Redemption Account, a RECS Certificate cannot be moved to any other account.

G.3.2 Only persons duly authorised by the Account Holder may request the redemption of RECS Certificates out of that Account Holder's Transferables Account and into its Redemption Account. The request is given electronically through the web site www.green-certificates.com.

G.3.3 A redemption request can be made by a person duly authorised by the Account Holder to transfer RECS Certificates out of that Account Holder's Transferables Account and into the Redemption Account of a Redeeming Body. A valid redemption request is one that is made by an authorised person for that Transferables Account, the relevant Certificates exist in that Transferables Account and the receiving Redemption Account exists. On receipt of valid redemption request, Green Certificate Company will:

- (a) remove the details of that RECS Certificate from that Transferables Account;
- (b) insert the details of that RECS Certificate in the Redemption Account of the Redeeming Body which made, or is specified, in that request; provide the Account Holder with access to the full details of that RECS Certificate certifying that it has been Redeemed; and
- (c) provide details of the Redeemed RECS Certificate to the Redeeming Body and its auditors where requested to do so.

G.3.4 A request for redemption of a RECS Certificate will be executed within 1 working day.

G.3.5 On request from an Account Holder, Green Certificate Company will produce a standard format, non-transferable, redemption statement within 5 working days. The request should include the following details:

- (a) The RECS Certificates to be redeemed.
- (b) The recipient of those Certificates, if not the Account Holder.
- (c) Any other information to be included on the statement
- (d) The production/issuing date if not sufficiently identified in (a) above.

G.3.6 According to the request, the statement will include some or all of the Certificates held in that Account Holder's Redemption Account that have not previously been included on such a statement.

The format of the redemption statement is shown in Annex 6 to this document.

G.4 Splitting

G.4.1 An RECS Certificate may be split into Certificates of lower Face Values if directly requested by the Account Holder or implied by the volume in a Transfer Request. This is achieved by deleting it and replacing it with RECS Certificates identical with that RECS Certificate in every respect save as to their denominations in MWh and any unique identification numbers. The aggregated Face Values of the replacement RECS Certificates will be the same as the Face Value of the original RECS Certificate.

G.4.2 Where a split of a Certificate is implied by a Transfer Request, that Transfer Request will be deemed to apply to all the replacement Certificates up to the volume implied by that Transfer Request.

G.5 Withdrawals

G.5.1 Green Certificate Company may Withdraw a RECS Certificate held in a Transferables Account on its EECS Registration Database at the request of the Account Holder of that Account, or otherwise in accordance with the provisions of the RECS scheme, thereby cancelling it.

G.6 Errors

G.6.1 Where an error is introduced (subsequent to its Issue) into, or with respect to, a RECS Certificate held in the Account Holder's Transferables Account in the EECS Registration Database:

- (a) in the course of its Transfer into that Account; or
- (b) during such time as it is in such Account,

Green Certificate Company will correct the error in or with respect to that RECS Certificate and any errors replicated in RECS Certificates split from it, provided that such RECS Certificate(s) have not been transferred out of that Transferables Account.

G.6.2 Green Certificate Company may Withdraw or alter a RECS Certificate held in its EECS Registration Database to give effect to an agreement reached with the Account Holder under provisions of the Standard Terms and Conditions.

G.6.3 Green Certificate Company may alter a RECS Certificate held in its EECS Registration Database so as to rectify an error which occurred prior to its transfer into the Account in which it is held at such time, provided:

- (a) the Account Holder has agreed to such alteration;
- (b) it is reasonably satisfied that any unjust enrichment of a RECS Scheme Participant as a consequence of such error has, to the extent reasonably practicable, been nullified; and
- (c) it is reasonably satisfied that the alteration itself does not give rise to undue enrichment of the Account Holder.

H MONITORING AND REPORTING

H.1 Monitoring

- H.1.1 The Registrant, on behalf of the owner and operator, of a Production Device must permit Green Certificate Company, or its agent, to access the Production Device or records associated with it, its energy output and sources of energy when conducting inspections in accordance with this section H.1, including, if so required, without prior notice. Refusal to permit such access may be considered a breach of the Standard Terms and Conditions.
- H.1.2 Green Certificate Company, or its agent, will periodically conduct inspections of a Production Device registered on its EECS Registration Database and any associated Import and Export Meters to confirm that:
- (a) the information recorded in relation thereto on the EECS Registration Database is accurate;
 - (b) the Registrant and, where applicable, the owner and/or operator of the Production Device, is complying with all relevant obligations under the relevant EECS Schemes; and
 - (c) such Production Device continues to meet the Qualification Criteria for the EECS Schemes in relation to which it is registered.
- H.1.3 The period between inspections of a Production Device under H.1.2 above will not exceed 5 years. Green Certificate Company will request the Registrant of a Production Device to produce a report from its nominated Production Auditor stating that the registration continues to satisfy the criteria in H.1.2 above. See also I.1.6 below.
- H.1.4 Green Certificate Company, or its agent, may conduct ad-hoc inspections of records associated with relevant Public Support in relation to Production Devices registered on its EECS Registration Database for the purposes of EECS Schemes.

H.2 Activity Reporting

- H.2.1 In order to maintain an open and orderly market, Green Certificate Company has a duty to publish information in relation to the activities of that market.
- H.2.2 Each Production Auditor will report to Green Certificate Company every 6 months specifying the auditing measures it has carried out in the preceding 6 months.
- H.2.3 Green Certificate Company will publish an activity report no less than once every three months on the number of RECS Certificates which, within the preceding three calendar months:
- (a) it has Issued;
 - (b) (where relevant) have been transferred within its EECS Registration Database from Accounts associated with one Domain to Accounts associated with another Domain held on the same EECS Registration Database;
 - (c) have been transferred into its EECS Registration Database from EECS Registration Databases of other EECS Scheme registry operators;
 - (d) have been transferred from its EECS Registration Database to EECS Registration Databases of other EECS Scheme registry operators; and
 - (e) it has transferred from Transferables Accounts to Redemption Accounts.

- H.2.4 The AIB will publish in respect of each calendar year an annual report within six months of the end of that calendar year on the functioning and efficiency of the market in Scheme Certificates Issued or transferred to Accounts in its members' EECS Registration Databases.
- H.2.5 The annual report referred to H.2.4 above shall specify any institutional, structural, and legal impediments to the efficient functioning of the RECS scheme within the Republic of Ireland.

H.3 Exception Reporting

- H.3.1 Where as a consequence of an inspection conducted pursuant to H.1 above, Green Certificate Company determines that the Scheme Participant is in breach of this Domain Protocol or the Standard Terms and Conditions, or determines that a Production Device is in breach of the Qualifying Criteria for an EECS Scheme in relation to which it is registered, Green Certificate Company will:
- (a) take such action as is necessary to secure that RECS Certificates are correctly being issued, such action to include, in a case of material non-compliance with the this Domain Protocol or the Standard Terms and Conditions by the Registrant, the withdrawal of registration of the relevant Production Device for the purposes of the EECS Scheme; and
 - (b) notify the AIB of such breach where Green Certificate Company is of the reasonable opinion that such breach could affect the transfer of EECS Certificates out of its EECS Registration Database into another EECS Registration Database.
- H.3.2 Green Certificate Company will report any failures by the Scheme Participant to comply with the provisions of this Domain Protocol or the Standard Terms and Conditions to the Competent Authorities in relation to such matters. Such failures shall include behaviour by the Scheme Participant of which Green Certificate Company is aware and which, in its reasonable opinion, amounts to a breach of Competition Law, or applicable law governing the conduct of financial markets.
- H.3.3 Green Certificate Company will also notify the AIB of any report made by it under H.3.1 above providing as much information in relation to such a report as is consistent with any duty of confidentiality it may have to the Scheme Participant.

I AGENTS AND MEASUREMENT BODIES

I.1 Production Auditor

- I.1.1 The role of the Production Auditor is to verify Production Declarations and (where appropriate) Consumption Declarations made by Registrants of Production Devices to Green Certificate Company for the purposes of Certificate issuing. This is to ensure the continued fulfilment of the conditions of registration.
- I.1.2 The Production Auditor is an agent of Green Certificate Company. The full list of approved Production Auditors is given in Annex 1 to this document and on the website www.green-certificates.com.
- I.1.3 To be a Production Auditor, the company must gain approval from Green Certificate Company. The operation of the Production Auditor is under the control of Green Certificate Company and the Association of Issuing Bodies.
- I.1.4 The Registrant of the Production Device may nominate a Production Auditor from the list in Annex 1. Such a Production Auditor must be independent of the owner or the Registrant of the Production Device.
- I.1.5 The Production Auditor will receive information about the issued RECS Certificates from Green Certificate Company and the registered information relating to the Production Device for the period being reviewed. The Production Auditor will compare generation capacity with the issued number of Certificates and other relevant data e.g. wind speeds, to identify any potential abnormalities.
- I.1.6 The Production Auditor will report any discrepancies from the registered information to Green Certificate Company as soon as possible.
- I.1.7 A Production Auditor may also perform the role of Production Registrar.

I.2 Production Registrar

- I.2.1 As part of the registration process for the Production Device, it is necessary for the information provided by the applicant to be independently verified. This is normally achieved through a site inspection, however, where the Production Registrar is satisfied that sufficient documentary evidence from independent and suitably qualified sources has been provided, a site inspection may not be necessary. Green Certificate Company must verify the application, but can delegate the activity to a Production Registrar as its agent.
- I.2.2 The full list of authorised Production Registrars is given in Annex 1 to this document and on the website www.green-certificates.com.
- I.2.3 The structure of charges to the applicant for this service and verification timings for each Production Registrar are shown on the website www.green-certificates.com.
- I.2.4 The Registrant, on behalf of the owner and operator, of a Production Device must permit Green Certificate Company, or a Production Registrar as its agent, to access the Production Device or records associated with it, its energy output and sources of energy when conducting inspections in accordance with section I.2.1 above.
- I.2.5 A Production Registrar may also perform the role of Production Auditor.

I.3 Measurement Body

- I.3.1 A Measurement Body is an organisation responsible for the collection of metering data relating to the output of the Production Device.

I.3.2 The full list of Measurement Bodies, approved to provide data for RECS in the Republic of Ireland is given in Annex 1 to this document and on the website www.green-certificates.com.

J MODIFICATIONS

J.1 Modifications to this Domain Protocol

- J.1.1 The Scheme Participant may propose a modification to this Domain Protocol;
- J.1.2 Such a proposal will include a detailed description, including an exact specification of any proposed modification of this Domain Protocol and be passed in writing to Green Certificate Company.
- J.1.3 On receipt of such a request, Green Certificate Company will:
 - (a) Respond to the request within 5 working days, describing the procedures to be followed, and estimating when a reply can be expected;
 - (b) Consult with the other RECS Scheme Participants within the Republic of Ireland;
 - (c) Decide whether the request and its consequences are in its opinion reasonable; and
 - (d) Inform the RECS Scheme Participants within the Republic of Ireland the outcome of this decision.
- J.1.4 Green Certificate Company may make such modifications to this Domain Protocol as are in its opinion necessary to the effective and efficient operation of the market.
- J.1.5 Any modifications to this Domain Protocol are subject to approval by the AIB that such changes do not conflict with the Principles and Rules of Operation of the Association of Issuing Bodies (AIB) for The European Energy Certification System.
- J.1.6 Implementation of modifications will be notified by email to the Scheme Participant and will take effect on publication of the documentation on the website www.green-certificates.com.

K ASSOCIATION OF ISSUING BODIES

K.1 Membership

- K.1.1 Green Certificate Company is a member of the Association of Issuing Bodies (AIB) and is bound by the quality standards of that Association for the international transfer of certificates. Continued membership is essential to facilitate international transfers of RECS Certificates.
- K.1.2 In order to maintain the quality standard across the entire EECS network, all AIB members are subject to audit and periodic peer review.
- K.1.3 In the event of Green Certificate Company or one of its agents failing to maintain the quality standard, there may be a suspension of RECS Certificate issuing and/or international transfers into or out of the Republic of Ireland.
- K.1.4 Should Green Certificate Company decide to withdraw from AIB membership in respect of RECS in the Republic of Ireland, it will give notice in writing to the Scheme Participant in accordance with the Standard Terms and Conditions.

Annex 1 – Contacts List

Issuing Body and Registry Services Provider (CMO)

Company	Green Certificate Company
Contact Person	Edmund Everson
Address	12 The Broadway, Amersham, Buckinghamshire HP7 0HP
Country	United Kingdom
Phone number	+44 (0) 1494 432323
Email address	ed_everson@green-certificates.com

Production Registrars

Company	Green Certificate Company
Contact Person	Edmund Everson
Address	12 The Broadway, Amersham, Buckinghamshire HP7 0HP
Country	United Kingdom
Phone number	+44 (0) 1494 432323
Email address	ed_everson@green-certificates.com

Production Auditors

Company	
Contact Person	
Address	
Country	
Phone number	
Email address	

Measurement Bodies

Company	Eirgrid
Contact Person	
Address	27 Lower Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 2
Country	Ireland
Phone number	+353 (0) 1 702 7939
Email address	

A full current list of contacts can be found on the website www.green-certificates.com.

- Any planned changes concerning the information given in this registration form will be announced in advance to the Production Registrar and Green Certificate Company. Any unplanned changes will be announced to the Production Registrar and Green Certificate Company at the first possible occasion.
- The owner of the production device and the Registrant as his agent accept the possibility of unannounced control and auditing visits to their own premises and/or the premises of the production device, as prescribed in the Domain Protocol for RECS in the Republic of Ireland.

Annex 3 – Energy Source Types and Technology Types

Source	Technology	Type	Code
Wind	Wind turbine	Onshore	01
		Offshore	02
Solar	Photovoltaic		03
	Thermal		04
Energy from water	Hydro power		05
	Tidal energy	Onshore	06
		Offshore	07
	Wave energy	Onshore	08
		Offshore	09
Geothermal			10
Biomass, using gasification and non-gasification technologies	Energy crops		11
	Forestry and agricultural by-products and waste		12
	Biogas	Landfill gas	13
		Sewage gas	14
		Other	15
	Energy from by-products and waste (with varying levels of filtration)	Municipal solid waste	16
		Industrial by-products and commercial waste	17

Annex 4 – Production/Consumption Declaration

General

This Production Declaration states the proportion of the actual equivalent electricity production that qualifies for RECS Certificates within this time period. An approved independent Production Auditor must verify this Production Declaration.

I. Owner of Production Device/Generator

Name of Owner	
Name of Registrant, if different	
Contact person	
Account to be credited	

II. Production Device

Production Device reference number	
Date of last registration form	
The period of production	

III. The percentage share of the total electricity produced during the associated period of production that is based on the renewable energy sources (electricity from biomass fuels only)

The share of electricity from renewable sources shall be verified based on information submitted to the administrator of a Public Support scheme, or by a review of documents showing changes in stock and purchased fuels. It is assumed that the efficiency factor is independent of fuel type. The generator is free to make a separate verification of the efficiency factor. It is assumed that the percentage share of electricity from renewables is directly proportional to the percentage share of used biomass during the period.

		Fuels in stock, at the beginning of the period	Purchased fuels during the period	Fuels in stock, at the end of the period	Consumption during the period	Calorific Value
Date		yyyy-mm-dd	-	yyyy-mm-dd	M ^{RE}	C ^{RE}
Biomass						
Energy crops	kg					
Forestry and agricultural by-products and waste (recovered liquor, bark, wood waste, sludge and reject)	kg					
Biogas	kg					
Landfill gas	kg					
Energy from by-products and waste (with varying levels of filtration, municipal solid waste industrial by products and commercial waste)	kg					
Sewage gas	kg					
Total Biomass	kg					

		Fuels in stock, at the beginning of the period	Purchased fuels during the period	Fuels in stock, at the end of the period	Consumption during the period	Calorific Value
Non biomass					M^{non-RE}	C^{non-RE}
Specify fuel	kg					
Total non-biomass	kg					
Renewable Source Factor	$L = \frac{M^{RE} \times C^{RE}}{(M^{RE} \times C^{RE}) + (M^{Non-RE} \times C^{Non-RE})}$					

IV. The percentage share of the total electricity produced during the associated period of production that is based on the renewable energy sources (electricity from pumped storage hydro only)

- a. Total electricity generated this period (MWh) _____
- b. Total electricity consumed this period (MWh) _____
- c. Total potential energy resulting from previous period pumping (MWh) _____
- d. Overall efficiency of pumping/generating (%) _____

Total natural inflow derived energy (= a - b/d - c) _____

V. Number of Certificates

Proportion of eligible MWh for which certificates are being applied is: _____% / _____MWh (complete as applicable).

VI. Verification of the Production Declaration

The undersigned Production Auditor has reviewed the Production Declaration and has no material reason to doubt the correctness of the data under II-IV.

Name.....

On behalf of Production Auditor

VII. Signature for the Registrant

Name

On behalf of

Date

Annex 5 – Account Application/Amendment Form

Application for account opening/amendment in the Republic of Ireland for RECS Certificates.

Applicant/Account Holder Name:	
Account Number (if existing):	
Address:	
Primary contact details:	
Name:	
Telephone:	
Email:	
Effective date:	
Authorised personnel	

The applicant/Account Holder requests:

- Open new Transferables Account
- Open new Redemption Account
- Amend authorised personnel on this account to only those shown above
- Amend Account Holder contact details
- Close account

The applicant agrees to abide by the regulations governing RECS including the provisions and requirements the Domain Protocol for the Republic of Ireland and the Standard Terms and Conditions of participation.

Signed

In the position of

Date

Annex 6 – Redemption Statement

EECS Redemption Statement

With this Redemption Statement the indicated Certificates are no longer tradable.
Onward sale of this Redemption Statement is prohibited.

Summary Data

Account Holder	
Redemption Date	
Unique Statement Number	
Number of redeemed certificates	
Number of MWh represented	
Redemption purpose	

Legend

Certificate Type			Code	
RECS			1	
Source	Technology	Type	Code	
Wind	Wind turbine	Onshore	01	
		Offshore	02	
Solar	Photovoltaic		03	
	Thermal		04	
Energy from water (excludes pumped element of pumped storage)	Hydro power		05	
	Tidal energy	Onshore	06	
		Offshore	07	
	Wave energy	Onshore	08	
		Offshore	09	
	Geothermal		10	
Biomass, using gasification and non-gasification technologies (as defined in the Large Combustion Plants Directive and the Waste Combustion Plants Directive)	Energy crops		11	
	Forestry and agricultural by-products and waste		12	
	Biogas	Landfill gas		13
		Sewage gas		14
		Other		15
	Energy from by-products and waste (with varying levels of filtration)	Municipal solid waste		16
		Industrial by-products and commercial waste		17
	Support Type / Description			Code
No support			0	
Investment support			1	
Production support			2	
Combination of Investment and Production support			3	

Production Device Information

<i>PD</i>	Production Device ID	Domain of Origin	Certificate Type	Energy Source	Support Type	Additional Remarks by the Issuing Body
1						
2						
3						

Redeemed Certificates

<i>PD</i>	From Certificate ID	To Certificate ID	Number of Certificates	Number of MWh Represented	Issuing Date	Production Period from / to
1						
2						
3						