

Country: Belgium (Flanders)		Author: VREG	
	Actual implementation in the MS	Comments	
<i>Date: (2024/01/31)</i>			
<b>GENERAL</b>			
	Disclosure system implemented	YES (electricity), NO (gas & heating/cooling) Supply of energy is only allowed if substantiated by cancellation of GOs of the appropriate type. However, disclosure on the energy bill is only mandatory for electricity at this moment.	
	- <i>Legislation</i>	Energy Decree, art. 7.1/1.2 and 7.4.1 Energy Decree: "Decree containing general provisions on energy policy", dated May 8th 2009 Energy Order, art. 6.3.1 - 6.3.4 Energy Order: "Order of the Government of Flanders containing general provisions on energy policy", dated November 19th 2010.	
	- <i>When did the regulation(s) regarding disclosure come into force?</i>	1/1/2011, latest changes on 17/8/2019	
	- <i>Competent Body (who is and since when?)</i>	VREG, since the beginning	
	RE-GO system implemented	YES	
	- <i>Legislation</i>	Energy Decree, art. 7.1/1.1 to 7.1/1.5 Energy Order, art. 6.2/3.1 and following	
	- <i>Competent Body (who is and since when?)</i>	VREG, since the beginning	
	- <i>Is the appointed Competent Body the only competent body in your domain for Gos (Who and When)?</i>	YES	
	CHP-GO system implemented	YES	
	- <i>Legislation</i>	Energy Decree, art. 7.1/1.1 to 7.1/1.5 Energy Order, art. 6.2/3.1 and following	

	- <i>Competent Body (who is and since when?)</i>	VREG, since the beginning	
	- <i>Is the appointed Competent Body the only competent body in your domain for Gos (Who and When)?</i>	YES	
<b>ID</b>	<b>Implementation of the elements of the Directive Related to GOs</b>		
<b>Definition</b>			
	The sole function of a GO is the usage for disclosure purposes for final customers.	YES	
<b>Implementation of Article 19 of the Directive</b>			
	<i>Have you fully implemented the requirements of Art. 19 of the RES-Directive?</i>	YES	
	<i>If not, please specify the ones which you have not implemented yet.</i>	N/A	
<b>ID</b>	<b>RE-DISS BPR</b>		
<b>12th Month Rule</b>			
	Metered production periods for issuing GOs are not longer than a calendar month.	YES Exception: PDs that do not produce at least 1 MWh per month	
	Metered production periods for issuing GOs do not run across the start and end of disclosure periods. Longer intervals up to one year are acceptable for very small plants, for example.	YES Exception: PDs that do not produce at least 1 MWh per month	
	If possible, issuing of GOs is done DIRECTLY after the end of each production period (potential exemption PV)	YES Maximum 2 months delay.	
	Lifetime of GO is limited to 12 months after the end of the production period.	YES	
	GOs that have reached this lifetime (and haven't been used for disclosure) are collected into the Residual Mix	NO GOs may be used until 18 months after production month for disclosure purposes	

	Cancellations of GO relating to production periods in a given year X which take place until a given deadline in year X+1 count for disclosure in year X. Later cancellations count for disclosure in year X+1. (In case that disclosure periods differ from the calendar year, the deadline is defined accordingly.)	YES	
	Deadline is set on 31 March X+1	YES	
	The same allocation rule applies for expired GO: The date of expiry thus determines the disclosure period for which information from expired GO will be used.	YES	
<b>Usage of EECS</b>			
	The implementation of GO in all countries in Europe is based on the European Energy Certificate System (EECS) operated by the Association of Issuing Bodies (AIB). In case that national GO systems are established outside the EECS, then EECS is at least used for transfers between registries.	YES	
	Is the GO system in the country established exclusively according to EECS?	Almost Electricity: yes Heating/cooling, gas and HEC-GO: national	
	Does the domain utilise the AIB Hub for international transfers?	YES Except for limited exports of HEC-GOs, mostly to LUX	
	In case that not all European countries are members of EECS, appropriate connections between the EECS system and non-EECS members as well as between different non-EECS members are to be established. These include inter alia procedures for assessing the reliability and accuracy of the GO issued in a certain country and interfaces for the electronic transfer of GO.	YES	
	Ex-domain cancellations of GO, where a GO is cancelled in one registry and a proof of cancellation is then transferred to another country in order to be used there for disclosure purposes, are only used if there is no possibility for a secure electronic transfer and if there is an agreement on such ex-domain cancellations between the competent bodies involved. Statistical information on all ex-domain cancellations are to be made available in order to support Residual Mix calculations.	YES	
<b>Issuing of GOs for different energy sources and generation technologies</b>			

	GOs are issued only for the net generation of a power plant, i.e. gross generation minus the consumption of all auxiliaries related to the process of power production. For hydro power plants involving pumped storage this means that GOs are issued only for the net generation which can be attributed to natural inflow into the reservoir.	YES	
	Verification mechanisms are implemented for ongoing control of registered data (e.g. reaudits, random checks, etc.).	YES	
	Correct accounting of RES share of combustion plants is assured by adequate measures (EECS Rules)	YES	
	The competent body can correct errors in GOs it has issued before they are exported, and is the only one with this competence.	YES	
	The GO system is extended beyond RES & cogeneration to all types of electricity generation.	NO The Flemish Government may extend the GO system to energy from other sources than renewable energy, and to fuels	
	GOs are issued for all electricity production, unless an RTS applies for that production, e.g. for the disclosure of supported electricity	NO GOs only issued for RES and HEC, not for other energy sources. All producers of energy from renewable sources who apply for GOs are considered, no exceptions are made for supported energy.	
	The Competent body has made the use of GOs mandatory for all electricity supplied to final consumers (full disclosure implemented).	NO Only mandatory for supply of RES electricity	
	All types of GO are handled in one comprehensive registry system per country. (For an exception see the coexistence of national GO systems and EECS )	YES True for the Domain of Flanders	
	Technical changes to plants are registered as soon as is reasonably practicable.	YES Plant owners/operators are expected to notify the production registrar as soon as possible.	

	GOs have no function in terms of target compliance and should not be used as support instrument. All GOs are linked to disclosure.	YES	
	A GO is considered as being used only once it has been electronically cancelled.	YES	
	After cancellation, no further cancellation, transfer or export of the given GO is possible	YES	
	After expiry, no further cancellation, transfer or export of the given GO is possible	YES	
	An exported GO is marked as removed from the exporting registry	YES	
	Processes in the registry excludes duplication of GOs.	YES	
	Registries are audited on a regular basis.	YES	

	If multiple certificates are to be issued, e.g. a GO for disclosure and a support certificate for management of a support system, then these are legally separated.	YES	
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	This GO combines the functionalities of a RES-GO and a high efficiency cogeneration GO.	NO	
	<i>GO as the unique "tracking certificate"</i>		
	GO is the only "tracking certificate" used. Any other tracking systems of a similar purpose and function as GO are closely coordinated with GO and eventually converted to GO.	YES True for electricity	
	Besides GO, only Reliable Tracking Systems (which may include contract based tracking) and the Residual Mix is available for usage for disclosure. No other tracking mechanisms are accepted.	YES True for electricity No disclosure obligation for other energy carriers	
	Green power quality labels use GO as the unique tracking mechanism.	NA No green power labels in use	

	<u>Recognition of GO imported from other countries</u>		
	<p>European countries choose one of the two following options and apply it consistently for all foreign GO :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rejection of GOs only relates to the cancellation of GOs and subsequent use for disclosure purposes in the respective country and does not restrict the transfers of GOs between the registry of the considered country and the registries of their countries. This means that the decision about the recognition of a GO does not hinder its import into the considered country.</li> <li>- Rejection of GOs implies blocking their import to the national registry.</li> </ul>	YES	
	The choice of one or the other option is transparent for all market parties and clearly communicated.	YES	
	Within the rules set by the respective Directives, European countries consider their criteria for the acceptance of imported GOs for purposes of disclosure.	YES	
	These criteria address imports at least from all EU member states, other members of the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland. The parties to the Energy Community Treaty are considered as well, as soon as GO imports from these countries become relevant.	YES	
	The criteria specify the electronic interfaces, data format and contents of GOs to be imported, which the respective country accepts for imports of GOs (such as the EECS Hub).	YES	
	Conditions for the recognition of GOs from other countries are that they were issued based on Art. 19 of Directive 2018/2001/EC or compatible national legislation, and that they meet the explicit requirements set in Art. 19, for example, regarding the information content of the GOs.	YES	
	The recognition of GOs from other countries is rejected if these countries have not implemented an electricity disclosure system.	YES	

	<p>The recognition of GOs from other countries is rejected if the country which has issued the GOs or the country which is exporting the GOs have not implemented appropriate measures which effectively avoid double counting of the attributes represented by the GOs. Such appropriate measures ensure the exclusivity of the GOs for representing the attributes of the underlying electricity generation, implement clear rules for disclosure, establish a proper Residual Mix or equivalent measures, and ensure their actual use. Furthermore, the appropriate measures ensure that attributes of exported GOs are subtracted from the Residual Mix of the exporting country and cannot be used for disclosure at any time in the issuing or the exporting country by explicit mechanisms, unless the GOs are re-imported and cancelled there.</p>	<p>YES</p>	
<b>Disclosure Schemes and other Reliable Tracking Systems</b>			
	<p>Full disclosure schemes are implemented, including the disclosure of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and radioactive waste.</p>	<p>NO Only RES GOs. CO2 emissions and radioactive waste information for the residual mix are included in electricity bills.</p>	
	<p>RTS (Reliable Tracking Systems) can comprise, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Homogeneous disclosure mixes for regulated market segments where no choice of supplier or different products exists,</li> <li>- Support systems whose interaction with disclosure requires a certain allocation of the attributes of supported generation (e.g. a pro-rata allocation to all consumers in a country where RES electricity is supported by a feed-in tariff),</li> <li>- Contract based tracking</li> </ul>	<p>NO</p>	
<b>Calculations of Residual Mixes</b>			

	Where a full-disclosure system has not been implemented in the country, the countries provide a Residual Mix (RM) as a default set of data for disclosure of energy volumes for which no attributes are available based on cancelled GO or based on other Reliable Tracking Systems. The use of uncorrected generation statistics (e.g. on national or UCTE, Nordel etc. levels) are avoided.	YES	
	The calculation of the Residual Mix follows the methodology developed in the RE-DISS project and taken over by the AIB.	YES	
	The Competent body from my country cooperates with AIB in order to adjust the Residual Mix in reflection of cross-border transfers of physical energy, GO and RTS.	YES	
	For purposes of this cross-border adjustment, the competent body uses data provided by RE-DISS. The competent body also supports the collection of input data for the related calculations by the AIB (and its consultant).	YES	
	As a default, the Residual Mix is calculated on a national level. However, in case that electricity markets of several countries are closely integrated (e.g. in the Nordic region), a regional approach to the Residual Mix may be taken. This should only be done after an agreement has been concluded amongst all countries in this region which ensures a coordinated usage of the regional Residual Mix.	YES	
<b>Contract based tracking</b>			
	If contract based tracking (CBT) is allowed in a country, it is regulated clearly and declared in the domain protocol.	NA	



	<p>Such regulations ensure that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The rules of the tracking system are transparent and comprehensive and are clearly understood by all participants in the system.</li> <li>- Double counting of attributes and loss of disclosure information is minimised within the contract based tracking scheme and also in the interaction of the contract based tracking scheme to GO and other RTS (if applicable). As a precondition for this, the contract based tracking scheme is able to provide comprehensive statistics about the volumes and types of electricity attributes which are tracked through it.</li> <li>- The relevant information for disclosure purposes is available in time to meet the timing requirements</li> </ul>	NA	
<b>Timing of Disclosure</b>			
	Electricity disclosure is based on calendar years.	YES	
	The deadline for cancelling GO for purposes of disclosure in a given year X is 31 March of year X+1.	YES	
<b>Further Recommendations on Disclosure</b>			
	The relation between support schemes for RES & cogeneration on the one side and GO and disclosure schemes on the other side are clarified. Where necessary, the support schemes should be defined as RTS	YES	
	If support schemes are using transferable certificates, then these certificates are separated from GO	YES	
	All electricity products offered by suppliers with claims regarding the origin of the energy (e.g. green or low-carbon power) are based exclusively on cancelled GO. No other tracking systems are allowed, with the exception of mechanisms defined by law, e.g. a pro-rata allocation of generation attributes to all consumers which is related to a support scheme.	YES All claims on electricity from renewable energy sources are monitored. Otherwise, the residual mix is assigned per default.	

	As required by Annex I of the IEM Directive 2019/944/EC annual disclosure of the supplier mix on or with the bill is mandatory. This also includes information on environmental impacts.	YES	
	Suppliers offering two or more products which are differentiated regarding the origin of the energy are required to give product-related disclosure information to all their customers, including those which are buying the “default” remaining product of the supplier.	YES	
	There are clear rules for the claims which suppliers of e.g. green power can make towards their consumers. There are rules on how the “additionality” of such products can be measured (the effect which the product has on actually reducing the environmental impact of power generation), and suppliers are required to provide to consumers the rating of each product based on these rules.	YES	
	Claims made by suppliers and consumers of green or other low-carbon energy relating to carbon emissions or carbon reductions are regulated clearly. These regulations avoid double counting of low-carbon energy in such claims. A decision is taken whether such claims should adequately reflect whether the energy purchased was “additional” or not.	YES	
	In case that suppliers are serving final consumers in several countries rules are developed and implemented consistently in the countries involved on whether the company disclosure mix of these suppliers relates to all consumers or only to those in a single country.	NK	
	The following recommendations are followed with respect to the relation of disclosure to cooperation mechanisms (Art 9 - 13 of Directive 2018/2001/EC):		
	a) If EU MS or MS or any other country agree on Joint Projects, such agreements also clarify the allocation of attributes (via GO, RTS or Residual Mix) issued from the respective power plants	YES	

b) If EU MS agree on Joint Support Schemes, such agreements clarify the allocation of attributes (via GO, RTS or Residual Mix) issued from the power plants supported under these schemes	YES	
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### Information on the Recognition of GO

Extra questions on recognition of GO		
Does the Domain treat imported GO as national GO when it comes to disclosure? If so, please specify.	YES	
Does the Domain have criteria in place for accepting foreign GO for disclosure?	YES	
- If yes, please specify the criteria which are in place	Electronic database in place, one competent body appointed by law, all GO's linked to disclosure, CO2-emissions and radioactive waste included in disclosure notification, transparent publication of disclosure information by Greencheck and Origin Comparator and our Fuel Mix Dashboard.	
Since when do you have these criteria in place?	Most of them since the beginning of our disclosure competence; CO2 emissions and radioactive waste information included since 2020.	
Are the criteria transparently published in your country?	YES As stipulated in Title VI of the Energy Order.	

### Information on Environmental Parameters

What are the data basis for disclosing CO <sub>2</sub> emissions and radioactive waste when using GOs or other Reliable Tracking Systems for disclosing specific supplier mixes?	AIB Residual Mix calculation is used directly.	
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### Information on Disclosure aspects

Extra questions regarding the provision of disclosure information on a disclosure statement towards end consumers		
Are there any regulations on graphical display of disclosure information by suppliers (requirements on how to display, fixed format of disclosure statement, ...)	NO	
Is there a requirement to provide comparison values besides supplier and product mix? If so, which one (e.g. national production mix)	YES Dashboard "Origin comparator" allows end consumers to easily compare fuel mixes per supplier and per product. See <a href="https://dashboard.vreg.be/report/DMR_Brandstofmix.html">https://dashboard.vreg.be/report/DMR_Brandstofmix.html</a>	
Is disclosure information somehow controlled by an official or independent institution? By whom? If so, is it audited or approved or calculated by that body?	YES All information in the dashboard is verified and published by VREG in its role of disclosure competent body.	
Is disclosure information of different suppliers centrally available (e.g. at the Competent Body, on a central website)?	YES See previous answers	
Is there an official regulation on communication of aspects related to additionality or ecological quality aspects together with disclosure? Please describe.	NO	
Is there a specific regulation on disclosure of (high-efficient) CHP in your domain?	YES	