



PRESS RELEASE

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Title: HARMONISED EUROPEAN ENERGY TRACKING SYSTEM READY FOR LAUNCH

Subtitle: AIB provides a standardised certificate for all fuel sources, for the purpose of electricity disclosure

Article 3 (6) of the Internal Electricity Market Directive (2003/54/EC) establishes a disclosure obligation for electricity suppliers. To support this, "AIB created a harmonised certificate scheme in order to provide an accurate, transparent and efficient solution for supporting trading of renewable electricity across Europe", Walter Boltz, the President of the Association of Issuing Bodies (AIB) explained.

In order to be able to disclose all energy sources, suppliers need tracking mechanisms - such as certificates and guarantees of origin - that are fully unbundled from the generic electricity market.

"These instruments do not distort the electricity market or weaken liquidity at power exchanges. The AIB is now ready to operate a single certificate scheme which can be used for electricity disclosure, for public support schemes or for RES-E target counting", Walter Boltz stated, and continued: "We think that the main purpose of our certificates will be disclosure. But if we are asked to extend our services to other purposes, we are ready to push the button."

Within the European Energy Certificate Scheme (EECS), the AIB advocates the use of RECS Certificates and RES-E Guarantees of Origin, which can be used for purposes of disclosure. The implementation of an additional disclosure certificate that covers fuel sources other than RES-E (i.e. fossil and nuclear) was decided at a meeting held in London on 23rd November.

Where tracking of fuel sources is impossible or unsuccessful, statistical data can be used to support disclosure, although this does introduce the problem of double counting. The AIB plans to provide a better alternative: the International Residual Mix (IRM) - the result of adjusting the European production-fuel mix to reflect tracked production attributes.

"The IRM will contain three fuel sources: renewable, fossil and nuclear, and will be calculated by the AIB. I am convinced that the IRM will considerably improve the basis for disclosure and avoid the double-counting error caused by the use of pure production statistics." Walter Boltz said.

In addition to issuing, transferring and redeeming certificates, the AIB will provide "Recommendations for the use of AIB-Certificates and the IRM". These recommendations will serve as an input for market players and decision makers, and will support the introduction of harmonised, reliable and accurate tracking processes for electricity disclosure.

UCTE has been invited to join the project.

The Association of Issuing Bodies - the AIB - promotes the use of a standardised system, based on harmonised environment, structures and procedures in order to ensure the reliable operation of international energy certificate systems, with a view to encourage the development of renewable energy.

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