

PRESS RELEASE

Place: Brussels

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Title: One billion EECS certificates issued (for 1,000,000,000 MWh of electricity)

Recently, the members of AIB issued the 1 billionth EECS certificate, representing 1 billion megawatt hours of electricity and providing sound evidence of the source of the electricity.

This clearly demonstrates the success of the system, which has now been in operation across much of Europe for 9 years.

Currently, members of the AIB certify 27% of all European production of renewable electricity (the countries of the European Union currently produce around 600 million MWh of electricity each year).

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.

Such certificates include: guarantees of origin for renewable energy (under Directive 2009/28/EC, and its predecessor Directive 2001/77/EC); guarantees of origin for cogeneration (under Directive 2004/8/EC); and voluntary RECS certificates.

Members of the AIB are predominantly energy regulators and transmission system operators, being the national competent bodies for electricity guarantees of origin; and private organisations such as NGOs for voluntary RECS certificates.

Since 2001, the Association of Issuing Bodies has coordinated the activities of organisations in charge of energy certificates across Europe under a system known as EECS – the European Energy Certificate System.

EECS provides an integrated European framework for issuing, holding, transferring and otherwise processing electronic records (EECS Certificates) certifying, in relation to specific quantities of energy produced from electricity generation plants, the conditions and source of their production. A classic example is the electrical output of a windmill. The number of certificates issued to a windmill during a period will be directly proportional to the electricity supplied to the power grid by that windmill and during that period. These certificates will guarantee that the electricity is from a renewable source and has been produced from wind energy.

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