



Gas Domain Protocol for FRANCE

Prepared by European Energy Exchange AG

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1.1	Clarification of certain features taking into account DGEC feedback

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A Introduction

The framework specified in the EECS Rules and the detailed procedures and conditions specified in this Domain Protocol have the main objective of ensuring robustness and transparency in the facilitation of EECS Schemes for all EECS Participants.

A Domain Protocol promotes quality and clarity, as it:

- makes local rules transparent;
- provides clear information to all stakeholders (consumers, market parties, other members, government, the EU Commission etc.);
- facilitates assessment of compliance and permissible variance from the EECS Rules;
- facilitates audit; and
- translates local rules into a single format and language, supporting each of the above.
- Important contact information is provided in Annex 1.

The objective is to ensure an acceptable level of robustness and transparency in the facilitation of the EECS Gas Scheme for all Scheme Participants.

The EEX French Registry for Biogas Guarantees of Origin (GOs) is going to be effective as of 1st of October 2023, as stipulated by Decree on the 4th of August 2023. Nevertheless, the current Domain Protocol has not yet been audited by AIB (Association of Issuing Bodies). The audition and the approval of the Domain Protocol is a pre-requisite for the issued Certificates to be considered and labelled as EECS Certificates and for EEX to officially be appointed as the representative of the EECS Gas Scheme for France. Once approved, an updated version of the Domain Protocol will be released. Consequently, no exports or imports of Certificates will be accepted until the EEX French Gas Registry is fully connected to the AIB Hub.

B General

B.1 Scope

B.1.1. This Domain Protocol sets out the procedures, rights and obligations, which apply to the Domain of France (metropolitan and overseas) and relate to the EECS Gas Scheme as defined in the EECS Rules.

B.1.2. Production Device qualification for this Domain will be determined by connection to the gas system of France (metropolitan and overseas) such that the Production Device is effectively located in France.

European Energy Exchange AG (EEX) is not yet authorised to Issue EECS Certificates relating to GOs for biogas as not yet audited by the AIB association.

EEX has been appointed as Authorised Issuing Body and Competent Body by decree of the French Ministry of Energy Transition from 1st October 2023 to 30th September 2028. EEX takes this role over GRDF (Gaz Réseau Distribution de France), gas distribution system operator.

EEX administrates the operation of the Registry within France. The Registry technical and operational support is exercised by EEX.

B.2 Status and Interpretation

- B.2.1. This document refers to EECS Rules 8 v1.
- B.2.2. The EECS Rules are subsidiary and supplementary to national legislation.
- B.2.3. The EECS Rules and its subsidiary documents are implemented in France in the manner described in this Domain Protocol. Most of the deviations from the provisions of the EECS Rules that may have material effect are set out in section 6 of this document. The capitalised terms used in this Domain Protocol shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the EECS Rules except as stated in section 6 of this document.
- B.2.4. This Domain Protocol is made contractually binding between any Account Holder and EEX by agreement in the form of the Standard Terms and Conditions.
- B.2.5. In the event of a dispute, the English version of this Domain Protocol will take precedence over a local language version.

B.3 B.3. Roles and Responsibilities

- B.3.1. The Issuing Body for GOs in France is EEX.

As Issuing Body, EEX carries out a systematic verification of each Production Device registered. In this role, it receives assistance from Measurement Bodies, who are the relevant Transmission or Distribution System Operators, for the verification of Production Devices. According to Article D446-32 of the French Energy Code, the relevant Transmission or Distribution System Operator put all relevant data to the disposal of EEX so that EEX can exercise its mission. The Measurement Bodies can delegate these obligations to a third party. In this case, a contract needs to be in place both between the Measurement Bodies and the third party and between EEX and the third party.

The mission of EEX is applicable in France metropolitan as well as in overseas territories. However, any GOs from overseas territories would be flagged specifically.

From the beginning of 2024, EEX will be responsible for issuing and then auctioning GOs for production devices receiving public subsidies that belong to the French State, on behalf of the French State.

- B.3.2. The Competent Authority for GOs in France is the Direction Générale de l'Energie et du Climat (DGEC). Its role is defined by legislation to be responsible for the operation of GOs in France.
- B.3.3. The Authorised Measurement Bodies are listed hereunder:

- GRTgaz
- GRDF
- List of Local Distribution Companies (Entreprises locales de distribution en France – ELD) available on the following website : https://www.data.gouv.fr/fr/datasets/referentiel-des-distributeurs-denergie/#_.

They are the bodies established under national regulation to be responsible for the collection and validation of measured volumes of energy used in national financial settlement processes.

B.3.4. Contact details for the principal roles and Issuing Body agents are given in Annex 1.

B.3.5. The Registration Database operated by EEX can be accessed via the website <https://www.eex.com>. Also, the Registry can be accessed via the website <https://www.eex.com>.

The software and database used for the Registry is G-REX, an IT application developed by Grexel.

B.4 Summary: Issuance scope

B.4.1. In summary, EEX issues the following types of energy certificates:

Issuing Body issues certificates for:		Gas – Product Type		
	Energy source	Methane	Hydrogen	Unspecified Gas
National GO	Renewable sources	X		

C Overview of National Legal and Regulatory Framework

C.1 Gas Market context

France has fully implemented the Directive 96/92/EC and 2003/54/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council respectively of 19 December 1996 and 26 June 2003 concerning common rules for the internal market in gas and is a liberalized market in accordance these two directives.

The Commission de Régulation de l'Energie (CRE) is the independent authority responsible for guaranteeing the proper functioning of the French energy markets for the benefit of the consumer. CRE regularly publishes analyses of developments in the electricity, gas and CO₂ wholesale markets, in its annual report on the functioning of the wholesale markets or its quarterly observations on the electricity and gas markets : <https://www.cre.fr/>

The Competent Authority for GOs in France is the Direction Générale de l'Energie et du Climat (DGEC). Its role is defined by legislation to be responsible for the operation of GOs for biogas injected into the grid in France. EEX has been appointed as Issuing Body for biogas GOs from 1st October 2023 to 30th September 2028 under a Decree dated 4th August 2023 by the French Ministry of Energy Transition , taking the role over GRDF.

The European Energy Exchange (EEX), part of Deutsche Börse Group, is an energy exchange in Europe and develops, operates and connects secure, liquid and transparent markets for energy and related products. EEX offers trading in power, gas, freight and agricultural products. In addition, EEX has been awarded the role of common auction platform to auction emission allowances within the EU ETS.

C.2 The EECs Framework

C.2.1. For France, the relevant local enabling legislation is as follows:

- The relevant EU legislation is Directive n°2009-28/EC of 23rd April 2009 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources.
- This EU Directive has been implemented into French law by Ordonnance n°2011-1105 of 14th September 2011. This Ordonnance introduces new articles in the French Energy Code.
- The mechanism of Guarantees of Origin in France for biogas is implemented in the law by Articles L446-18 to L446-22 and D446-17 to D446-44 of the French Energy Code. They specify the obligation and powers of the entity in charge of issuing, transferring and cancelling GOs. It also details how the French GO mechanism is functioning.
- French Energy Code is available on this website: <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000023983208&dateTexte=20111114>.

The main items are the following:

- According to Article L446-18 of the French Energy Code, only GOs can certify the origin of the biogas in order to prove to final consumers the share or quantity of energy produced from those sources contained in the commercial offer contracted with their gas suppliers.
- Guarantees of Origin are issued for net production on a monthly basis. Guarantees of Origin may be issued within five (5) months from the end of the related production period, except for GOs under feed-in tariffs which should be issued within two (2) months from the end of the related production period. GOs expire after twelve (12) months after the end of the related production period. Its use should be declared within the eighteen (18) months after the end of the related production period.
- Article D446-30 of the French Energy Code details the GO recognition from other European countries. Unless EEX has well-founded doubts about the accuracy, reliability or veracity of GOs from another European Country, then EEX notifies the French Ministry. The French Ministry then decides whether or not to accept GOs from this country.
- Production Devices which benefit from a contract of “obligation d’achat” or “complément de rémunération” must register with EEX. In case the contract has been concluded after 9th November 2020 and except if the owner of the Production Device wants to go out of the subsidy scheme, any GOs could be issued on the DGEC account. For these Production Devices, only the DGEC may request the issuance of GOs. These GOs are then to be auctioned off in accordance with the French Energy Code, Book IV, Title IV, Chapter VI, Section 7, Sub-section 5. The revenues of this auctioning process is dedicated to the energy transition fund.
- To participate in such auctions, Account Holders must register with EEX specifically for this purpose, and must contact EEX through GO-gaz@powernext.com to do so.

C.2.2. EEX has been appointed as Authorised Issuing Body for Gas GOs from 1st October 2023 to 30th September 2028 under a Decree dated 4th August 2023 by the French Ministry of Energy Transition.

C.3 National Gas Source Disclosure

C.3.1. Legislation and regulation:

According to Article L446-18 of the French Energy Code, only GOs can certify the origin of the biogas in order to prove to final consumers that subscribed to a green offer the quantity of biogas produced.

C.3.2. Summary of the disclosure methodology and process:

For all their green offers, suppliers have the obligation to use guarantees of origin to certify the renewable origin of the energy sold. The quantity of guarantees used over a certain period must be at least equal to the quantity of green energy sold.

C.4 National Public Support Schemes

In France, different types of support schemes are in place.

- Production supports

France introduced two types of feed-in tariff mechanisms:

- A system called “obligation d’achat”, defined through Articles L446-4 to L446-6-1 of the French Energy Code.
- A system called “complément de rémunération”, defined through Articles L446-7 to L446-17 of the French Energy Code.

In both systems, producers owning Production Devices sign a contract of “obligation d’achat” with third parties called “*Acheteurs Obligés*” (obligated buyers) or “*Co-contractants*”. Obligated Buyers must buy the Output produced by the Production Device at the price agreed in the “contrat d’achat”. The difference between the energy price and the feed-in tariff is then reimbursed by the French State.

Per Article L446-21 of the French Energy Code, a producer owning a Production Device being subject to one of the two mechanisms above mentioned can ask for the issuance of GOs relating to this Production Device on its own account. Yet, its Production Device would then automatically go out of the mechanism and the producer would need to reimburse part or all subsidies received through the “obligation d’achat” or “complément de rémunération” mechanisms.

Production devices which benefit from a contract of “obligation d’achat” or “complément de rémunération” concluded after 9th November 2020 must be registered in the Registry for the account of the Account Holder Direction Générale de l’Energie et du Climat (DGEC). GOs can then be issued by the French State who is then owner of the GOs issued and then sold to other Account Holders through auctions.

- Investment supports

There exist various investment support schemes in France at national level or regional level. Investment supports on a specific production device have to be indicated on each GO of this production device, along with the amount received.

C.5 Product Rules

C.5.1. The Product Rules as applied in France are set out within sections D and E of this document.

C.6 Local Deviations from the EECS Rules

French legislation differs from the EECS Rules on the following points:

- Guarantees of Origin may be issued within five (5) months from the end of the related production period, except for GOs under feed-in tariffs which should be issued within two (2) months from the end of the related production period. A Registrant cannot request the issuance of GOs for production periods exceeding one (1) calendar month.

- EEX shall issue a number of Guarantees of Origin equal to the amount of biogas produced during the production period to which the request relates, rounding down to whole MWh. Any remaining amounts of energy shall not be carried forward.
- GOs can only be issued referring to a production period inferior or equal to one month.
- The EEX Registry can handle GOs with a Label Scheme that can be used in France, according to the French legislation. EEX does not accept Non-Governmental Certificates.
- EEX is not yet using the AIB hub for imports and exports as EEX is not yet an AIB member. EEX is so far not issuing EECS-GOs.

D Registration

D.1 Registration of an Account Holder

D.1.1. Applications

- Any legal person who is not a member of the Association of Issuing Bodies or such member's affiliate or agent can be an Account Holder of the Registry.
- An application to become an Account Holder is done by connecting to the public website of the Issuing Body www.eex.com in order to obtain the registration forms (such request can also be done by phone or by regular mail to go-gaz@powernext.com).
- EEX sends the applicant the documentation that must be filled in order to become an Account Holder. These documents must be completed and signed by the applicant and sent back to EEX. Electronic signatures with a digital certificate can be used to sign the following documents. They include :
 - The Standard Terms and Conditions;
 - The admission form, including a specific questionnaire on the future activity of the Account holder on the Registry;
 - A list of the senior managers and other representatives with the power to sign all of the documents relating to the operation of the Registry (authorised signatories)
 - A copy of the annual report, company registration, articles of association and the senior managers' powers, prepared in accordance with the legislation of the applicant's home country.
- The completeness and the adequacy of the documents sent back to EEX by the applicant are then checked by the customer care and market surveillance teams of EEX, which assess whether the applicant can be accepted. Moreover:
 - As the case may be, additional documentation may be required from the applicant;
 - Depending on the analysis of the company, a "risk profile" will be attached to it. If a company raises awareness, a specific attention will be paid to its actions on the Registry;
 - In case the market surveillance team has serious doubts regarding the applicant company, it can alert the competent authorities (Ministry or else).
- When the assessment of the application is completed by EEX and the application has been accepted, the applicant becomes an Account Holder.

- Along with the Standard Terms and Conditions, EEX sends the Account Holder the login and password which will be used to connect to the secure part of the website. For security reasons, the login and password are sent separately.
- EEX will answer any application request as quickly as possible. It should take place within one month after receipt of the complete necessary data for application.
- Tariff of services can be found on the website www.eex.com

D.1.2. Maintenance of standing data

An Account Holder must notify EEX without any delay of any upcoming changes that will result, or unplanned changes that have resulted, in the information recorded in the registry in relation to the Account Holder becoming inaccurate. The Account Holder himself is responsible for keeping the Account Holder information recorded in the registry accurate. This can be done by logging onto the Registry and only by an accredited user of the Account Holder. Moreover, any change done this way will ultimately be validated by EEX.

D.2 Resignation of an Account Holder

In accordance with the Standard Terms and Conditions, the Account Holder must notify EEX of its intent to close its Account in written form. Such request shall be effective one (1) month after receipt by EEX.

Once an account is closed, the Account Holder has no longer access to the Registry. Any Gas GOs remaining in the Account of the registry at the time of locking will remain there until being expired.

Outstanding charges are still due according to the invoices received.

D.3 Registration of a Production Device

D.3.1. Processes:

In order to issue Gas GOs, the Account Holder must register Production Devices according to the processes described in the following paragraphs.

D.3.2. Application

D.3.2.1. General rules

- Production Devices can only be registered if they meet the Production Device Qualification Criteria for EECS-GOs and the French relevant legislation. To be qualified, Production Devices must:
 - be located in metropolitan France .
 - be capable of producing biogas injected into the grid,
 - and be equipped with an gas-metering device capable of measuring the biogas produced and the biogas injected into the grid.
- For Production Devices which are not under feed-in tariffs, only the owner of a Production Device or a company duly authorised by the owner of a Production Device, may register a Production Device, which is located in France in the registry.
- For Production Devices which are under feed-in tariffs from a contract from a contract concluded in accordance with Articles L446-4, L446-5 of the French

Energy Code before 9th November 2020, the obligated buyer, party to the “contrat d’obligation d’achat” or “complément de rémunération” can register the Production Device on its account.

- Per Article R314-53 of the French Energy Code, Production Devices which benefit from a contract concluded in accordance with Articles L446-4, L446-5 of the French Energy Code (“obligation d’achat” or “complément de rémunération”) after 9th November 2020 must register their Production Device in the Registry for the account of the Account Holder Direction Générale de l’Energie et du Climat (DGEC).
- In case the Account Holder or its affiliate on which the Production Device is registered is not the owner or the sole owner of the Production Device, it must include in the application:
 - In case of a Production Device outside any feed-in tariff scheme: a power(s) of attorney signed by the (other) owner(s) of the Production Device,
 - In case of a Production Device under feed-in tariffs contract signed before 9th November 2020, the “contrat d’obligation d’achat” or the “contrat de complément de remuneration” linking the Producer to the Obligated Buyer.
 - In case of a Production Device under feed-in tariffs contract signed before 9th November 2020, the “contrat d’obligation d’achat” or the “contrat de complément de rémunération” document needs to be provided as well.

D.3.2.2. Application for Production Devices which do not benefit from a contract concluded in accordance with Articles L446-4, L446-5 of the French Energy Code (“obligation d’achat” or “complément de rémunération”) or which is concluded before 9th November 2020

- Step 1: The Account Holder must connect on its personal secure account on the Registry and go to the “Plants” section.
 - The Account Holder must fill in the Production Device electronic registration form (see Annex 3) and send the documentation requested about the Production Device, in accordance with the Production Device Qualification Criteria for EECS-GO and the French relevant legislation. This documentation comprises the information hereunder. This list might evolve depending on Production Device Qualification Criteria for EECS-GO and the French relevant legislation possible evolutions.
 - Production device: name, address/location, start date, commissioning date, installed capacity, the types of support if any, owner, Account Holder, transmission or distribution system operator on which the Production Device is connected, applied EECS Schemes, references of the exploitation authorization, references of the grid access contract,
 - Only the general Biogas Fuel (F01030000 code of the AIB EECS fuel fact sheet) is accepted in the GO registry to issue GOs so far. In case the Production Device uses non-renewable fuels, these need to be registered accordingly, no GOs would however be issued for non-renewable gas.
 - Technology code of the Production Device according to technology codes in AIB EECS Fact Sheet 5,

- Specification whether the Production Device is eligible for any kind of support scheme (especially investment support), corresponding amount and period of the scheme,
- Whether the Production Device is subject to a regular audit by an accredited organism,
- Additional fields can be required as indicated in the registry application.
- The attention of the Account Holders is drawn to the fact that some of the required information on the Production Device will not appear on the GO. In some cases (e.g. the reference of the declaration of connection of the production device to the grid or the amount and duration of support schemes), the data will be indicated on the French GO but might be lost would the GO be exported.
- Step 2: Registration data are manually checked by EEX. If they are not consistent with the data indicated on the grid access contract, the Account Holder has to correct the data or explain the discrepancy. In case the data is consistent, they can be sent to the relevant Measurement Bodies.
- Step 3: If some checks were asked to the relevant Measurement Body, the Measurement Body checks the validity of the data and answers EEX.
- Step 4: In case all controls are positive, the Production Device is registered.
- Metering data of each Production Device are sent as described in E.2.
- Tariffs for registering a Production Device are disclosed on the website www.eex.com.

D.3.2.3. Application for Production Devices which do not benefit from a contract concluded in accordance with Articles L446-4, L446-5 of the French Energy Code ("obligation d'achat" or "complément de rémunération") after 9th November 2020

- Step 1: The Producer who must register its production device must fill in the Production Device registration form available on the EEX website: www.eex.com and send the documentation requested about the Production Device, in accordance with the Production Device Qualification Criteria for EECS-GO and the French relevant legislation. This documentation comprises the information hereunder. This list might evolve depending on Production Device Qualification Criteria for EECS-GO and the French relevant legislation possible evolutions.
 - Production device: name, address/location, start date, commissioning date, installed capacity, the types of support if any, owner, Account Holder, transmission or distribution system operator on which the Production Device is connected, applied EECS Schemes, references of the exploitation authorization, references of the grid access contract,
 - Codes of all possible fuels which can be converted into biogas by the Production Device according to the fuel codes in AIB EECS fact Sheet,
 - Technology code of the Production Device according to technology codes in AIB EECS Fact Sheet 5,
 - Specification whether the Production Device is eligible for any kind of support scheme (especially investment support), corresponding amount and period of the scheme,
 - Whether the Production Device is subject to a regular audit by an accredited organism,
 - Additional fields can be required for specific Production Devices.

- Step 2: EEX checks the consistency of the data received. If the data are not consistent with the data indicated on the grid access contract, the Producer needs to correct the data or to explain the discrepancy. If the data received are consistent, EEX can require an additional check by the relevant Measurement Body.
- Step 3: If some checks were asked to the relevant Measurement Body, the Measurement Body checks the validity of the data and answers EEX.
- Step 4: In case all controls are positive, EEX registers the Production Device. The Production Device is associated to the French State account, who would then benefit for issued GOs if any.
- Metering data of each Production Device are sent as described in E.2.
- Registration of such Production Devices are free of charge.

D.4 De-Registration of a Production Device

The Registrant must notify EEX in the GO Registry of its intention to unregister a Production Device via written form. The applicant must warn EEX at least 15 business days in advance of its intention of de-registering a Production Device. EEX will answer the request by deactivating the Production Device in the shortest delay and at maximum in a one-(1) month period of time.

Re-registration requirements are similar to the registration requirements described in D.3.2. Outstanding charges are still due according to the invoices received.

D.5 Maintenance of Production Device Registration Data

D.5.1. The Registrant of a Production Device (being an Account Holder as in D.3.2.2 or the Producer as in D.3.2.3) must notify EEX of any upcoming planned changes that will result, or unplanned changes that have resulted, in:

- the information recorded in the registry in relation to the Production Device becoming inaccurate; or
- the Qualification Criteria for the Product ceasing to be satisfied with respect to that Production Device.

The Registrant notifies EEX of such changes by making the necessary amendments to Production Device information in the registry according to the procedure described in D.3.2.2 or D.3.2.3.

On receipt of a change of details notification (following an inspection or otherwise), EEX will evaluate the impact of the changes on the Production Device Qualifying Criteria and respond to the Registrant within sixty (60) days specifying the decision taken. EEX may respond to the changes by approving or disapproving them in the EECS registry, or by requiring verification by the relevant Transmission or Distribution System Operator. If EEX does approve the change, the Production Device is modified with an “effective date” associated to the change. Certificates issued after the “effective date” will contain the new characteristics of the production device.

When EEX becomes aware that a Production Device no longer fulfils, or will no longer fulfil, the Production Device Qualification Criteria, the registry record for that Production Device will be updated to show that the Production Device no longer qualifies for GO Product Certificates with effect from:

- the date on which such planned changes are due to come into effect, when such change has been planned and notified in advance; or
- as soon as reasonably practicable after becoming so aware, in case of other changes.

D.6 Audit of Registered Production Devices

D.6.1. Regular checks by EEX

Pursuant to Article D446-31 of the French Energy Code, EEX shall verify the accuracy of the data given in the requests for issuance that it has received with the support of Transmission System Operators and Distribution System Operators if needed.

When checking a Production Device, EEX will verify together with the Account Holder that the data on the Production Device have not changed. In case a change is reported, the relevant Grid Operator will be contacted. This can be done more frequently than once every (5) five years.

D.6.2. Regular check of the Production Devices with the Transmission and Distribution System Operators

Measurement Bodies check the data on Production Devices during the registration process. EEX will re-submit the data for a new automatic check on a regular basis (at least every 5 years). In case of a change, the procedure described in D.5.1. will apply.

D.6.3. On-site audits are performed to a sample of production devices by EEX

Registered Production Devices which have been used for requests or procurement of GOs can be subject to on-site audits.

This process is distinctive as it is mostly managed outside the software tool and implicates both functional operators and auditors. These on-site audits are performed by approved third parties chosen by the DGEC and who have been authorized according to the Article L446-47.

Audits are carried out according to a procedure, methods and evaluation criteria which are transparent. The process is described hereunder:

- A notification is sent to the Account Holder (and to the owner of the Production Device if the Account Holder has a power of attorney).
- The Account Holder (and the owner of the Production Device if applicable) answers on its availability.
- The audit is carried out by the agent who verifies the accuracy of the data communicated to the Registry. A specific attention is drawn to the Production Device Diagram, the place of the Meters and the calculation of the net energy certified.
- The result of the audit is communicated to the operational team of the Registry.
- If the result of the audit is positive, the operator indicates that the Production Device has been audited and is in conformity with the registration. The Account Holder is notified of this.
- A report stating the date, location and nature of the observations made and testifying of the conformity with the declaration made on the Registry is sent to the Account Holder.
 - If the result of the audit is negative, the operator indicates on the Registry interface that the Production Device has been audited and is

not compliant. The Account Holder is notified of this and the Production Device is deactivated. If it appears that GOs were inaccurately issued as a result of this error, then the procedure described in E.9 may apply.

- A report stating the date, location and nature of the observations made and testifying of the non-conformity with the declaration made on the Registry is sent to the Account Holder.
- After deactivation of the Production Device, the Account Holder cannot request issuance of GOs for this Production Device.
- In order for the Production Device to be reactivated, the Account Holder will have to ask for an additional audit, which will be invoiced to it.
- The Production Device will be reactivated only if the new audit is positive.

All the Production Devices registered can be subject to on-site audits.

For on-site audits of Production Devices carried out in accordance with the Article L446-47 of the French Energy Code, the Production auditors are subcontractors appointed by EEX among a list that have been authorized .

From its date of registration and until its deregistration from the database, the Production Device can be audited on-site by authorized agents at any time.

D.6.4. Account Holders and owners of Production Devices agree to grant access to EEX agents for on-site audits. Refusal to permit access shall be considered a breach of the Standard Terms and Conditions.

D.6.5. If an inspection identifies material differences from the details recorded on the EECS Registration Database, the Registrant must re-apply for registration of the Production Device.

D.7 Registration Error/Exception Handling

D.7.1. Any errors in Certificates resulting from an error in the registered data of a Production Device will be handled in accordance with section E.9.

D.7.2. Error handling

If EEX detects errors in the Account Holder information, it will notify the Account Holder in order to ensure that the error is rectified by the Account Holder. If expressly authorised by the Account Holder, EEX may rectify the error itself.

If EEX detects an error in the information of a Production Device in the Registry, the following procedure is applied:

- If the error is minor and that the Production Device is still eligible for GOs issuance, then EEX will notify the Account Holder in order to ensure that the error is rectified by the Account Holder. If expressly authorised by the Account Holder, EEX may rectify the error itself;
- If the error means that the Production Device ceases to be eligible for GOs issuance, then the Production Device is deactivated. For the Production Device to be reactivated, the Account Holder will have to ask for an onsite audit, as described in Section D.6, which will be invoiced to it. If it appears that GOs were inaccurately issued as a result of this error, then the procedure described in E.9 may apply.
- When appropriate, EEX will report to the AIB in respect of the Section F.3.2.

E Certificate Systems Administration

E.1 Issuing Certificates

Gas GOs can be issued:

- in respect of the qualifying energy Output of such a Production Device during any period in which it was registered in the EEX Registry for the purpose of the EECS-GO Scheme; and
- for a production period which should not exceed one (1) month, and
- when the issuing request for a specific production was submitted not later than five (5) months after end of the production period, except in case of issuance requested from a Production Device under feed-in tariffs where this time is reduced to two (2) months after the end of the production period ; and
- to an Account Holder who does not have any outstanding fees payable to EEX in conjunction with GOs at EEX.

One GO is issued for each whole one MWh of qualifying net energy of the Production Device. GOs should be issued on what has been injected to the grid, excluding consumption of any auxiliaries.

The GOs shall be issued in such format as may be determined by the AIB from time to time and including the details in accordance to the relevant French Law and the AIB standards.

E.2 Processes

Issuance of GOs is done according to the process described hereunder.

- Once a Production Device has been registered and activated, the Account Holder to which the Production Device relates can request the issuance of GOs for biogas production starting at the latest of the following date:
 - when the Production Device has been commissioned or
 - If applicable, when the Production Device has been transferred to a new Account Holder (either as owner or as beneficiary of a power of attorney) or
 - if applicable, when the Production Device has left or entered the feed-in tariffs mechanism (purchasing obligation system)
 - in any case, following the rules stated in E.1.
- In order to obtain this issuance and in case of Production Plants registered as described in D.3.2.2, the Account Holder connects to its personal secure account on the Registry in the “Plants” section and select the “Meter Readings” sub-section. It is then requested to fill in an electronic form with the relevant information for such issuance:
 - Start date and end date of the production period: this period shall coincide with measurement data and should not be longer than a month. The production end date shall be at the maximum five (5) months before the issuance of GOs is requested, except in case of issuance requested from a Production Device under feed-in tariffs where this time is reduced to two (2) months after the end of the production period.
 - Net production of biogas injected to the grid for the relevant period. Net production means the biogas produced by the Production Device excluding consumption of auxiliary devices of the Production Device or any production which cannot be subject to GOs. Account Holders are requested to send a proof of net production injected from an official document (either coming from an auditor or from the relevant Measurement Body). In case of question, they should contact the operational teams of EEX.
 - Additional fields can be required for specific Production Devices.
- In case the Production Devices registered under the French State Account, Issuance is handled by EEX directly, following instruction from the French State.
- EEX will answer any issuing request as quickly as possible. According to Article R446-111 of the French Energy Code, issuing should take place within thirty (30) days after receipt of the complete necessary data for issuance. In case of GO issuance from a new Production Device or from a Production Device connected to a Distribution System Operator, this delay is increased up to sixty (60) days.
- When issuing GOs, upon indication from the French Ministry, EEX will add a mention on whether the GOs are already accounted for in respect of France's compliance with the obligations set by Regulation (EU) 2018/842 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018:
 - Case 1: “The reduction in greenhouse gas emissions associated with the production of biogas corresponding to this guarantee of origin is accounted for in respect of France's compliance with the obligations set by Regulation (EU) 2018/842 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May

2018. This reduction in greenhouse gas emissions cannot therefore be subject to double counting in another system, in particular under paragraph 4 of Article 39 of the implementing regulation (EU) 2018/2066 of the Commission of December 19, 2018 in its version modified by the implementing regulation (EU) 2020/2085 of the Commission of December 14, 2020.

- Case 2: “The reduction in greenhouse gas emissions associated with the production of biogas corresponding to this guarantee of origin may be counted under paragraph 4 of Article 39 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2066 of the Commission of 19 December 2018 as amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2085 of 14 December 2020.”

E.3 Measurement

- The verification is carried out on the net production of biogas injected to the grid for the relevant period. This must ensure that the certificates issued based on the Production Declaration can provide unique and exclusive evidence of the production of biogas from particular energy sources.
- The metering devices in place should correspond to the technical standards defined by the different Transmission System Operators and Distribution System Operators.
- The verification of the measurement is carried out as described in paragraph E.2.
- The DSO or TSO is responsible for the measurement data it sends to EEX.

E.4 Production Devices with multiple energy inputs

- It is not allowed to enter multiple sources per installation in the EEX Registry, except in case some non-renewable fuels are used in the Production Device. In such a case, no GOs would be issued for the non-renewable fuels but these fuels must be declared in association with the production device.
- In this case, the Production Device Registrant must declare the fuel usage of each energy source to the Issuing Body. GOs are assigned with a fuel type according to EECS Rules Fact Sheet 5 at the time of issuing.
- Where the production device has multiple fuel sources, an independent auditor/inspection body calculates the fuel input parameters and based on these calculations GOs are issued in the Registry. The frequency of the calculation is yearly (or shorter in case of major change in fuel sources). The calculation of the fuel input parameters must be confirmed annually (ideally in advance).

E.5 Format

E.5.1. Certificates shall be Issued in such format as may be determined by the AIB from time to time.

E.6 Transferring Certificates

The Account Holder can transfer GOs to another Account Holder in the Registry through the Registry software.

Only persons duly authorized by the Account Holder may request the transfer of GOs out of that Account Holder's Transferable Account. Only valid GOs can be transferred within the EEX Registry. This excludes the transfer of cancelled or expired GOs.

E.6.1. The initiation of transfers is made by the selling Account Holder.

E.6.2. The transfer of GOs and the confirmation of that transfer are done in accordance with the following procedure:

- The selling Account Holder connects to its personal secure account on the Registry and goes to the "Transfer" section. It is then requested to indicate the beneficiary Account Holder of the transfer as well as the GOs from one of its Transferable Accounts to be transferred. This excludes withdrawn, expired or already cancelled GOs that are in his cancellation account.
- The beneficiary can then either accept or refuse the transfer. If the beneficiary refuses the transfer, the transfer is cancelled and the GO certificates are returned to the original transferable account of the Account Holder; the selling Account Holder is notified of the rejection. If the beneficiary confirms the transfer, the GOs are withdrawn from the Account of the selling Account Holder and transferred to the Account of the beneficiary. Both Account Holders are notified of the transfer of the GOs.
- Account Holders have the possibility to add a beneficiary list of "trusted accounts". Transfers received from these trusted accounts would then not need to be validated by the Account Holders.

E.6.3. Specific case of GOs under feed-in tariffs with a contract concluded after 9th November 2020:

- As of 2024, EEX will be responsible for organising auctions on GOs issued from Production Devices under feed-in tariffs. The DGEC will sell part or all GOs from the Production Devices registered on its account. Auction sessions are organized on a monthly basis.
- The auction system is distinct from the registry system. Companies willing to buy GOs through the auction organised by EEX however need to be Account Holders on EEX Registry. Account Holders wishing to participate to the auction system need to sign additional membership documents and to comply with the EEX French Guarantees of Origin Auction General Terms and Conditions.
- At the end of the auction process, GOs will be transferred from the DGEC account to the buyers' accounts via a normal transfer. This transfer would however be automatically accepted by the beneficiaries (buyers) without any additional confirmation needed.
- For more information on the auction process, please contact go-gaz@powernext.com.

E.6.4. Administration of malfunctions, corrections and errors

EEX has the right to perform corrective actions such as withdrawal or transfer of GOs in the EEX Registry.

E.7 Administration of Malfunctions, Corrections and Errors

E.7.1. Once issued, the details of a GO cannot be altered or deleted except to correct an error.

In the event that it transpires that the data in any GOs is inaccurate (whether or not through an act or omission of the Registrant of the originating Production Device):

- EEX shall either withdraw those Certificates (provided that such GOs are, at the time of such Withdrawal, in the Transfer Account of that Registrant) or correct this error on the following months by issuing more or less GOs from the same Production Device of the Account Holder. In case the Production Device is not active anymore, the Certificates from similar Production Devices could be withdrawn ; and
- The Account Holder shall pay EEX the cost of securing the agreement of another Account Holder to the Withdrawal of GOs of the same type from that other Account Holder's Transfer Account, so that, as far as reasonably practicable, GOs are withdrawn with an adequate volume and financial value.

E.8 End of Life of Certificates – Cancellation

E.8.1. Cancellation is removing a Certificate from circulation. Once cancelled, a Certificate cannot be moved to any other account, and so is no longer tradable.

E.8.2. The initiation of Cancellations is undergone by the relevant Account Holder in accordance with the following procedure:

- The Account Holder connects to its personal secure account on the Registry and goes to the "Cancellation" section.
- The Account Holder specifies the GOs to be cancelled amongst the list GOs in one of its Transferable Accounts. This excludes withdrawn, expired or already cancelled GOs. The Account Holder must specify as well the cancellation purpose, usage category (being mandatorily disclosure), the consumption point of the beneficiary and the related consumption period.
- In case of multiple consumption points associated with one cancellation, the volume of GOs cancelled should be determined per consumption point.

- The related consumption period should be included within the validity period of the GOs and cannot relate to 2 different civil years.

E.8.3. The cancellation of Certificates is automated. When an Account Holder asks for the cancellation of GOs, an automatic check is carried out. If the data are not correct, the cancellation of the GOs is abandoned. If the data are indeed correct, the GOs are cancelled. Cancelled Certificates are removed from the Transferable Account of the Account Holder and cannot be cancelled or transferred anymore.

E.8.4. The confirmation of the success or failure of a cancellation is notified to the Account Holder by EEX. In case of success, a document (cancellation statement) can be downloaded by the Account Holder through the Registry by EEX confirming the cancellation of the Certificates (see E.9.6 Forms). In case of rejection of a cancellation the Account Holder is furthermore explicitly notified by EEX about the rejection and the reasons for it.

In case of mistake, Account Holders have 24 hours to revert the cancellation request. After this time, no amendments can be made to the cancellation.

E.8.5. Only GOs relating to gas generation may be cancelled in the EEX registry.

E.8.6. A cancellation statement can be printed out from the Registry by the Account Holder organisation that has performed the cancellation. A template is available in Annex 5.

E.9 End of Life of Certificates – Expiry

E.9.1. GOs which have expired are no longer valid for transfer.

E.9.2. In accordance with legal regulations, GOs expire after twelve (12) months after the end of the related production period. Its use should be declared within the eighteen (18) months after the end of the related production period.

E.9.3. GOs expire automatically after the legal expiry date. Transfers of GOs that have already expired are prevented.

E.10 End of Life of Certificates – Withdrawal

E.10.1. EEX may withdraw a GO held in a Transfer Account on its Registry at the request of the Account Holder of that Account, or otherwise in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Product Rules, thereby withdrawing it. Withdrawal of Certificates can occur following errors as described on E.9.

E.10.2. EEX may withdraw a Certificate held in its Registration Database to give effect to an agreement reached with an Account Holder under provisions of its Standard Terms and Conditions.

E.10.3. When EEX withdraws a GO, it no longer appears on the Account Holder account and it is no longer transferable nor eligible to be cancelled.

F Activity Reporting

F.1 Public Reports

F.1.1. EEX publishes on a monthly basis the list of GOs which have been issued, imported, exported and cancelled on the registry. Data are available on EEX website: <http://www.eex.com> and follows the French legislation requirements. Data includes: the ID Number of the GO, date of delivery or import, name of the account holder having issued the Certificate (if issued in France) or having imported the Certificate, Legal form of the Account Holder, Production Device Name, Production Device Location, Production Device installed capacity, Production Device commissioning date, Energy Source, National support type, production start date, production end date, quantity certified, cancellation or export date, name of the Account Holder having cancelled or exported the Certificate.

F.2 Record Retention

F.2.1. Retention of printed and electronic information regarding registries and data is done in accordance with the following table:

Data	Time	Medium
Standard Terms and Conditions and its appendices	Minimum 5 years (paper) and 10 years (scans) after termination of contract	Both paper and electronic archive (scans)
Production Device Registration forms, audit reports	Minimum 5 year and maximum 10 years after de-registration	Electronic forms
Issuing Request (Consumption Declaration / Production Declarations)	Minimum 5 years and maximum 10 years	Electronic forms
Transaction data	Minimum 5 years and maximum 10 years	Database backups

F.3 Orderly Market Reporting

F.3.1. When appropriate, EEX will report failures by Account Holders to comply with the provisions of Product Rules to the Competent Authorities. Such failures include behaviour by Account Holder of which EEX is aware and which, in its reasonable opinion, amounts to a breach of Competition Law, or applicable law governing the conduct of financial markets.

F.3.2. When appropriate, EEX will notify the AIB of any report made by it under Section F.3.1 and will provide the AIB with as much information in relation to such report as is consistent with any duty of confidentiality it may have to the relevant Account Holder.

G Change Control

G.1 Complaints to EEX

EEX endeavour to deal with complaints received as soon as possible. Complaints can be filed by email, phone call confirmed by email or registered letter. They should be addressed to the

relevant contact listed in Annex 1, according to whether the complaint concerns general, operational or administrative issues.

EEX will answer within five (5) working days after receipt of such complaint, informing the customer of the applicable procedures. EEX strives to resolve all complaints within one (1) month. Where for whatever reason this proves impossible, EEX will inform the customer of the reason for the delay and keep them informed on further progress. Upon resolution of a complaint, EEX will send written confirmation of the outcome.

G.2 Change Requests

An Account Holder may propose a modification to this Domain Protocol.

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 EEX.

On receipt of such a request, EEX will:

- respond to the request, describing the procedures to be followed, and estimating when a reply can be expected;
- consult with the other Account Holders within France that might be affected by such a modification;
- decide whether the request and its consequences are in its opinion reasonable;
- inform the Account Holders within France on the outcome of its decision.

EEX may make such modifications to this Domain Protocol as are in its opinion necessary to the effective and efficient operation of the market.

Implementation of modifications will be notified by email to the Account Holder and will take effect on publication of the documentation on the website : www.eex.com.

H Transitional arrangements

- Until 30th September 2023, GRDF was the GO issuer for France. By October 1st 2023, all data are transferred across the EEX registry in accordance with the Arrêté of August 4th 2023.
- All data are transferred to make sure to keep a full track record of the usage of guarantees of origin.

H.1 For Production Devices

- Production devices which have been registered by GRDF are transferred in the EEX registry together with mandatory supporting documents. All data regarding these Production Devices have been verified by Measurement Bodies. EEX carries out an additional verification about the coherence of data so that Production Devices are registered automatically in the EEX registry. Yet, all Account Holders are responsible to check that the data are correct.. All Production Devices active in the GRDF registry are also active on the EEX registry.

H.2 For Guarantees of Origin

- All guarantees of origin are transferred to the EEX registry in the respective accounts of the Account Holders and associated with the relevant Production Devices. These guarantees of origin keep the numbering associated with GRDF and are flagged as such in the EEX registry.

Annex 1: Contacts List

Authorised Issuing Body/Registry Operator

For questions regarding the admission of an Account Holder or operational questions, please contact:

Company	EEX
Contact Persons	Registry Support Team
Address	5 boulevard Montmartre – 75002 PARIS
Country	France
Phone	+33 1 70 36 33 49
e-mail	Go-gaz@powernext.com

If the operational question asked need to involve Measurement Bodies, EEX will contact them. Here is the list of Measurement Bodies in France:

- GRT gaz
- GRDF
- List of Local Distribution Companies (Entreprises locales de distribution en France – ELD) available on the following website : https://www.data.gouv.fr/fr/datasets/referentiel-des-distributeurs-denergie/#_

Annex 2: Account Application/Amendment Form

The Account Application Form can be found on the registry website.

Annex 3: Device Registration Form

For Production Devices registered as D.3.2.2, this form is available under electronic form. Production Devices must be registered on the Registry website. The Account Holder needs to connect to its personal secure account on the Registry.

For Production Devices registered as D.3.2.3, this form is available on the EEX website (www.eex.com) and needs to be sent via email.

Annex 4: Production/Consumption Declaration

This form is available under electronic form. The Account Holder needs to connect to its personal secure account on the Registry. GOs are issued according to data filled in the electronic version of the registry.

Annex 5: Cancellation Statement

This form is available under electronic form. The Account Holder needs to connect to its personal secure account on the Registry

Annex 6: Definitions

Terms used in capitalized letters shall have the meaning provided in the EECS Rules of the Association of Issuing Bodies (AIB), the latest version of which can be found at <http://www.aib-net.org>.

The following is a summary of the EECS Rules Fact Sheet 'Types of Energy Inputs and Technologies' entries for technologies. Would there be any conflicts between the latest version of this Fact Sheet and the tables provided below, the latest version of the Fact Sheet shall prevail.