
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2018 No. 611

The Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme Regulations 2018

PART 4

Ongoing obligations for participants

CHAPTER 1

Ongoing obligations relating to the use of solid biomass to generate heat

Participants using solid biomass in accredited RHI installations with an installation capacity of 1MWth or above

38.—(1) This regulation applies to a participant generating heat from solid biomass, not being solid biomass contained in waste, in an accredited RHI installation with an installation capacity of 1MWth or above.

(2) The participant may use solid biomass contaminated with fossil fuel only where the proportion of fossil fuel contamination does not exceed 10%.

(3) Such contaminated biomass may not be used unless the fossil fuel is present because—

- (a) the solid biomass has been subject to a process, the undertaking of which has caused the fossil fuel to be present in, on or with the biomass even though that was not the object of the process; or
- (b) the fossil fuel is waste and was not added to the solid biomass with a view to its being used as a fuel.

(4) For the purposes of paragraph (2)—

- (a) the proportion of fossil fuel contamination is to be determined by the Authority for every quarterly period;
- (b) it is for the participant to provide, in such form as the Authority may require, evidence to demonstrate to the Authority's satisfaction the proportion of fossil fuel contamination; and
- (c) the proportion of fossil fuel contamination is the energy content of the fossil fuel with which the solid biomass used in any quarterly period is contaminated expressed as a percentage of the energy content of all solid biomass (contaminated or otherwise) used in that quarterly period to generate heat other than fossil fuel used in accordance with paragraphs (5) and (6).

(5) The participant may use fossil fuel (other than fossil fuel mentioned in paragraph (2)) in the accredited RHI installation for the following permitted ancillary purposes only—

- (a) cleansing other fuels from the accredited RHI installation's combustion system prior to using fossil fuel to heat the combustion system to its normal temperature;
- (b) the heating of the accredited RHI installation's combustion system to its normal operating temperature or the maintenance of that temperature;
- (c) the ignition of fuels of low or variable calorific value;

(d) emission control;

(e) in relation to accredited RHI installations which are CHP systems, standby generation or the testing of standby generation capacity.

(6) The energy content of the fossil fuel used during a quarterly period for the permitted ancillary purposes specified in paragraph (5) must not exceed 10% of the energy content of all the fuel used by that accredited RHI installation or where the installation is a CHP system, by a combustion unit which supplies energy to that installation from solid biomass, to generate heat during that quarterly period.

(7) Without prejudice to paragraph (4)(b), in determining the proportion of solid biomass composed of fossil fuel the Authority may have regard to any information (whether or not produced to it by the participant) if, in its opinion, that information indicates what proportion of the contaminated solid biomass is composed of fossil fuel.

(8) Where the Authority so requests, the participant must arrange for samples of the fuel used (or to be used) in the accredited RHI installation, or of any gas or other substance produced as the result of the use of such fuel, to be taken by a person (and analysed in a manner) specified by the Authority, and for the results of that analysis to be made available to the Authority in such form as the Authority may require.