

Additional requirements to the Bonsucro certification system to support the certification of Bagasse against the Dutch sustainability criteria for solid biomass for energy applications

1. Introduction

In September 2013 more than 40 Dutch government bodies, companies and non-governmental organisations endorsed the National Energy Agreement for Sustainable Growth. Part of this Agreement deals with targets for the more sustainable use of energy in the years 2020 and 2023. Bio-energy plays an important role in meeting these targets. It was also agreed that sustainability criteria would be formulated for the large-scale application of biomass for cofiring in coal-fired power plants, and that these sustainability criteria would include forest management and climate aspects like greenhouse gas emissions, carbon debt and indirect land use change.

Energy companies can use the approved certification schemes and their claims to demonstrate that the solid biomass which they use complies with the Dutch legal sustainability criteria, either as “sustainable biomass” or as “controlled biomass”. Demonstrating compliance is a condition for receiving subsidy from the so-called SDE+ subsidy scheme for cofiring of solid biomass in coal-fired power stations or for the large-scale production of industrial steam from solid biomass.

Following a decision by the Bonsucro Board of Directors, the Bonsucro certification system has been amended to fulfil the system requirements defined by the Dutch government. Consequently companies certified against the Bonsucro Production Standard including Principle 6 and Bonsucro EU RED Chain of Custody Standards fulfil the legal requirements set by the Dutch government to demonstrate the sustainability criteria of bagasse for solid biomass for energy applications.

The requirements have been approved by the Board on 17th June 2020 and come into force on the date of their publication.

2. Reference

Bonsucro Production Standard v4.2

Bonsucro EU RED Chain of Custody Standard v5.1

Bonsucro Certification Protocol v5.1

Dutch legal *'regeling conformiteitsbeoordeling vaste biomassa voor energietoepassingen'*

3. Additional Requirements

The following certification documents are amended as followed by the inclusion the additional clauses highlighted in yellow.

3.1 Certification Protocol

Part B 4.3 Scope of Certification

4.3.5 The CB shall inform the mill that it must conform with Bonsucro Standard EU RED should the mill wish to also demonstrate compliance with the Dutch sustainability criteria for solid biomass for energy

Part C 4.3 Scope of Certification

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3.2 Bonsucro Production Standard

Criterion	Indicator	Processing/Milling	Agriculture	Verifier	Standard	Notes
6.1 To monitor greenhouse gas emissions with the view of minimising impacts on climate change	6.1.1 Global warming burden per unit of energy.	.	.	g CO ₂ -eq/MJ for electricity g CO ₂ -eq/MJ for heat	<74 <32	Actual value for the emissions of solid biomass for the generation of electricity shall be calculated according to the COM(2010)11 / SWD(2014)259 / JRC Report EUR 27215 EN (available at: https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/publication/eur-scientific-and-technical-research-reports/solid-and-gaseous-bioenergy-pathways-input-values-and-ghg-emissions-calculated-according)

3.3 Bonsucro EU RED Chain of Custody Standard

Objective of the Bonsucro Mass Balance Chain of Custody Standard

The objective of this Bonsucro EU-RED Mass Balance Chain of Custody (EU-RED ChoC) Standard is to provide assurance that claims of compliance with EU-RED requirements and Dutch sustainability criteria for solid biomass for energy applications can be tracked along the supply chain. The Bonsucro EU-RED Chain of Custody Standard is a separate standard to the generic Bonsucro Chain of Custody Standard (ChoC) and contains specific requirements for sugar derived products to be qualified for the EU-RED biofuels and bioliquids markets.

The Bonsucro EU-RED ChoC Standard is intended for ethanol, ETBE or other products wishing to demonstrate compliance with the EU Renewable Energy Directive (RED- 2009/28/EC), the EU Fuel Quality Directive (FQD- 2009/30/EC), amendments included in Directive 2015/1513 and additional communication from the European Commission (Com 2010/C 160/02 and BK/ gs/ener.c.1(2014)3648524). It is also intended for bagasse wishing to demonstrate compliance with the Dutch sustainability criteria for solid biomass for energy applications.

Scope of the Bonsucro Mass Balance Chain of Custody Standard

The Bonsucro EU-RED ChoC Standard applies to any economic operator purchasing, handling and/or trading physical Bonsucro EU-RED compliant material and/or bagasse compliant with the Dutch sustainability criteria for solid biomass for energy application who wishes to make any claim about the status of the material or representation of the material in relation to EU-RED or Dutch sustainability requirements. It describes the requirements to ensure the traceability of Bonsucro EU-RED compliant material by implementing a mass balance supply chain model. Any economic operator that wishes to make a claim regarding Bonsucro EU-RED certified material shall hold a valid EU-RED ChoC certificate.

Unit of Certification

Multi-site certification: Note that companies seeking certification of Bagasse against the Dutch sustainability criteria for solid biomass for energy applications shall only include in their unit of certification more than one site if they belong to a single and same legal entity.

Indicator 1.1.6 Defining the unit of certification

The economic operator shall define and document the responsibility of the Group leader including in terminating group membership in case a site does not comply with the requirements set in Principle 2 of the Bonsucro EU-RED Chain of Custody Standard.

For companies seeking certification of Bagasse against the Dutch sustainability criteria for solid biomass for energy applications, the Central Office shall record a declaration submitted by each site in which they declare that they meet Bonsucro EU-RED Chain of custody requirements.

Indicator 2.1.2: Verification of data of the incoming Bonsucro EU-RED certified product

The receiving economic operator shall verify that the supplier contract, invoice and/or supporting documentation, including associated sustainability characteristics of Bonsucro EU-RED certified products meet the following requirements

(...)

- Whenever actual GHG values are used for bagasse for energy application under the Dutch sustainability criteria, the actual GHG value, the actual GHG values [kg CO₂eq] per dry tons (bagasse) or per MJ (energy) is obtained using a methodology that is based on the most recent European Commission publication on sustainability criteria for solid biomass and the reference values provided for fossil fuels (the COM(2010)11 / SWD(2014)259 / JRC Report EUR 27215 EN).