

## **Guidelines on the obligation of compliance with the benchmarks for the introduction of sustainable fuels on the market from the total energy content of compressed natural gas and liquefied natural gas**

(1. 6. 2024)

These guidelines are relevant for a legal entity or natural person that introduces fuels onto the market and is obliged to ensure compliance with the benchmark pursuant to Section 14a(1)(b) of Act No. 309/2009 Coll. on the Promotion of Renewable Energy Sources and High Efficiency Combined Production and on Amendments and Additions to Certain Acts, as amended, for a calendar year (hereinafter referred to as "Act No. 309/2009 Coll.").

Pursuant to Section 14a(10)(d) of Act No. 309/2009 Coll., for the purposes of meeting the benchmark for sustainable fuels, the energy content of the renewable gas declared by the renewable gas Guarantee of Origin containing the Proof of Sustainability certificate pursuant to Section 14b shall be credited to the holder who cancels the renewable gas guarantee of origin for the purposes of meeting the benchmark.

The holder shall cancel the Guarantee of Origin of renewable gas in his account established in the Registry of Renewable Gases. The account holder must be a legal entity or natural person who places the fuels on the market.

Pursuant to Section 11b(1) of Act No. 309/2009 Coll., the Registry of Renewable Gases shall be established and operated by the distribution network operator, which, on the basis of the decision of the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, performs the tasks of the gas dispatching in the defined territory (SPP - distribúcia, a.s.). The specific conditions for the operation of the Registry of Renewable Gases shall be regulated by the Operating Rules.<sup>1</sup>

The Guarantee of Origin that the account holder intends to cancel for the purposes of meeting the benchmark pursuant to Section 14a(10)(d) of Act No. 309/2009 Coll. shall:

- a) be recognised and transferred to the holder's account in the Registry of Renewable Gases during its validity,
- b) include information on whether the renewable gas to which the Guarantee of Origin relates meets the criteria for sustainability and greenhouse gas savings,
- c) contain Proof of Sustainability according to § 14b of Act No. 309/2009 Coll.,
- d) state whether it has been issued according to the higher or lower calorific value of the renewable gas to which the guarantee relates,
- e) be applied by cancellation by the holder in their Registry of Renewable Gases account,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.spp-distribucia.sk/dodavatelja/register-obnovitelnych-plynov/dokumentacia/>

specifying the reason for the cancellation together with a reference to the relevant Proof of Sustainability held in the electronic transport fuels registry in their account

Pursuant to Section 14g of Act No. 309/2009 Coll., the electronic registry of fuels in transport (hereinafter referred to as the "database") is established and maintained by the Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute to record the quantity, origin and type of biomass and raw material and sustainability characteristics of sustainable fuels, with data entered into the database by a legal or natural person involved in the life cycle of the sustainable fuel.

The data shall be entered into the database no later than the twenty-fifth day of the calendar month following the calendar quarter in which the fuel is placed on the market. The data entered into the database shall be verified by a qualified person for the purposes of verifying the calculation or by a legal or natural person who carries out independent supervision under a voluntary certification scheme.

In the event that the database is unavailable or it is not possible to enter data on renewable gases into it, the procedure shall be in accordance with Section 14gF(7) to (9) of Act No. 309/2009 Coll.

On the website of the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic there is a template of the Proof of Sustainability, which must be filled in and sent to the administrator of the database in case the database is unavailable and it is not possible to enter the data for the fulfilment of the obligations according to the Act No. 309/2009 Coll.

Pursuant to Section 14h(15) of Act No. 309/2009 Coll., the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic has announced on their website that the European Commission has established a database for the purposes of tracking liquid and gaseous fuels from renewable sources in transport. The legal entity or natural person referred to in the notification is obliged to enter data into this database. It is currently not fully operational for gaseous fuels and is in the testing phase (<https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/display/UDBBIS/FAQ+-+UDB>).