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# EMCC

European Monitoring Centre on Change

## Belgium: Employers' obligation to improve energy efficiency

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Belgium

Phase:

Anticipation

Type:

Employers' obligation to improve energy efficiency

Last modified: 10 December, 2021

Native name:

Koninklijk besluit betreffende de instelling van mechanismen voor de bevordering van elektriciteit opgewekt uit hernieuwbare energiebronnen

English name:

Royal Decree on the promotion of electricity produced from renewable energy sources

### Article

Royal Decree on the establishment of mechanisms for the promotion of electricity generated from renewable energy sources [and the compensation of offshore domain concession holders in case of unavailability of the Modular Offshore Grid].

### Description

The Green Certificate Scheme defines the conditions for issuing green certificates by the federal regulator Commission for Electricity and Gas Regulation (CREG) for offshore wind energy production and requires the transmission system operators to obtain green certificates issued anywhere in Belgium at a guaranteed minimum price (equivalent to €107/MWh for offshore wind energy for energy produced by first installed capacity up to 216 MW for each concession and € 90/MWh for additional capacity, and €20/MWh for ocean energy).

Under the Royal Decree of 20 December 2000, the Minister for Energy can deliver domanial concessions for the construction and the exploitation of installations of electricity production, generated from water, currents or winds, in the territorial sea and the exclusive economic zone of Belgium. The decree determinates the zone where the installations may be set up. It also specifies the criteria of granting and the procedure by which the concessions are being issued.

In additional to the federal Green Certificate Scheme, provincial schemes are in place in the Brussels capital region and in Flanders.

In the Brussels capital region, green certificates are awarded to all energy suppliers producing renewable energy. The number of green certificates granted is proportional to the CO2 savings made by the installation compared to a benchmark. All electricity suppliers are obliged to purchase an annual quota of green certificates proportional to the volume of electricity sold on the Brussels market, to assure their selling activities.

All the electricity suppliers in Flanders are obliged to purchase a certain number of green certificates as well. The amount has to be 14% of their total electricity supply in 2013, 15.5% in 2014, 16.8% in 2015, 20.5% in 2020. The suppliers must submit the certificates to the Flemish regulator ([VREG](#) or Vlaamse Regulator voor de Elektriciteits- en Gasmarkt) by the 31 March every year. A fine of €100 is imposed for each missing certificate.

### Comments

National Green Certificate Scheme Belgium was firstly introduced in 2001 to deal with the renewable electricity market. The national scheme defined the procedures for licensing offshore installations and for issuing the green certificates. It also determined how the quota was calculated and the rate of fine for not fulling the quota. A provincial green certificate scheme was set up in Wallonia as well. The two schemes have been terminated.

#### Cost covered by

Employer






#### Involved actors other than national government

Regional/local government

## Thresholds

No, applicable in all circumstances

## Sources

-  Federal Green Certificate Scheme (Climate policy database)
-  Brussels Green Certificate Scheme (Climate policy database)
-  Flanders Green Certificate Scheme (Climate policy database)
-  Wallonia Green Certificate Scheme (Climate policy database)
-  National Green Certificate Scheme (Climate policy database)

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