



Notification Number: 2013/187/UK

End of waste Quality Protocol for biomethane for injection into the gas grid, or for use as a fuel in suitably designed appliances

Date received : 09/04/2013

End of Standstill : 10/07/2013

Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2013) D/5953

Directive 98/34/EC

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Notifica - Pieteikums - Pranešimas - Bejelentés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação - Hlásenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация : 2013/0187/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahtuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201300953.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2013 0187 UK EN 09-04-2013 UK NOTIF

2. Member State

UK

3. Department Responsible

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
Knowledge & Innovation Group
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET.

Email: 9834@bis.gsi.gov.uk.

3. Originating Department

Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs



4. Notification Number

2013/0187/UK - S20E

5. Title

End of waste Quality Protocol for biomethane for injection into the gas grid, or for use as a fuel in suitably designed appliances

6. Products Concerned

The product is biomethane derived from landfill or the anaerobic digestion of organic wastes. The degradation of organic material in a landfill or anaerobic digestion plant produces a biogas from which methane can be extracted. The Quality Protocol defines requirements for such biomethane. If biomethane is produced in accordance with the Quality Protocol's requirements, it would be considered "end of waste" for the purposes of article 6(4) of the revised Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98). The biomethane could be injected into the gas grid or used as a fuel in suitably designed appliances (which could be for transport or static engines).

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

The Quality Protocol sets out criteria for producing and using biomethane from specified wastes (i.e. from the degradation of wastes in a landfill site or anaerobic digestion plant). The Quality Protocol applies to the use of such biomethane for injection into the gas grid or in an appliance designed for natural gas.

Different requirements apply to biomethane if it is injected into the gas grid or an appliance. For injection to the gas grid, the biomethane must meet approved product standards including specified limits on contaminants, comply with the Gas Safety (Management) Regulations, be supplied in accordance with a Network Entry Agreement. The operator must retain and supply appropriate records on the production and use of the biomethane.

For use in an appliance suitably designed and operated for natural gas, the biomethane must meet approved product standards including specified limits on contaminants, comply with the requirements of any manufacturer's warranty if necessary. The operator must retain and supply appropriate records on the production and use of the biomethane and of compliance with the operational requirements of any warranty or other operating instructions.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

Anaerobic digestion of waste is considered to be a waste recovery operation, and is permitted and regulated by the Environment Agency in accordance with the revised Waste Framework Directive, (Directive 2008/98/EC). The storage and transmission of biomethane produced from waste via the grid and its use in appliances or transport would normally require a permit. However, where recovered in a controlled manner, biomethane produced from waste is comparable to other gaseous fuels. We have therefore developed an end of waste quality protocol, which defines controls on the recovery process, thus ensuring the biomethane from waste is comparable to other forms of methane or biomethane. (The recovery process, landfill or anaerobic digestion, will remain within waste regulatory control. Waste controls will not apply to the use of Quality Protocol



biomethane.)

In creating the protocol, we have involved industry through a technical advisory group, and have consulted interested parties in two public consultations. A financial impact assessment concluded that there is a viable market for biomethane from waste and that controls in the gas transmission network would be no different than that for other sources of gas i.e. connections will be subject to the Gas Safety (Management) Regulations 1996.

After commissioning an independent environmental risk assessment, the Environment Agency considered that biomethane produced in accord with the protocol presents no more harm to the environment or human health than natural gas supplied through the grid. In considering reasonable conditions within the quality protocol to ensure controlled production and a consistent product, we have sought to harmonise control levels with other European Member States, specifically Germany and the Netherlands, and also align these with the proposed European standard currently being developed by the project committee on Biomethane for use in Transport and injection into the natural gas grid (CEN/TC 408).

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

No Basic Text exists

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

15. Impact assessment

Yes

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

No - The draft has no significant impact on international trade

SPS aspect

No - The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure

Catherine Day



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GROWTH DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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