Green-e™ Renewable Energy Standard for Taiwan ROC

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November 22, 2019

Feedback on this document will be accepted until 11:59pm Taiwan Time on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 (7:59am Pacific Time). You may submit feedback either:

- Through an online survey:
  - In English - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FCKSCJG
  - 中文版 - https://zh.surveymonkey.com/r/FY5QCHY

- By emailing written comments to comments@green-e.org using the subject "Taiwan Standard Comments".

You can review the survey PDF for the specific questions on which we are seeking feedback at www.green-e.org/taiwan

Comments are welcome on any part of the Standard.

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I. Introduction

This Green-e™ Renewable Energy Standard for Taiwan ROC (“Taiwan Standard”) document provides Green-e™ Energy’s requirements for certified renewable electricity sales and consumption in Taiwan.

Green-e™ Energy is a voluntary certification program that promotes the use of high-impact renewable electricity generation by providing environmental standards and consumer protection to support voluntary purchasing and use of renewable electricity. High-impact renewable energy standards and certification accelerate the development of renewable electricity generation and renewable electricity markets, and provide consumers a meaningful mechanism through which they can express demand for renewable electricity.

This Taiwan Standard document was developed as a Regional Standard under the Green-e™ Framework for Renewable Energy Certification (“Framework”), with input from local and international stakeholders, by the non-governmental organization Center for Resource Solutions (“CRS”) that administers the Green-e™ Energy program. For more information and background on Green-e™ Energy and the Framework, visit www.green-e.org

Sellers and users of renewable electricity and Energy Attribute Certificates (“EACs”) may apply to CRS to offer renewable energy products certified under the Taiwan Standard or to certify eligible renewable energy usage by visiting the above website. The Taiwan Standard applies to the certification of renewable electricity transactions and use, and not, for example, the certification of generation equipment.

In the event of any conflict between the English version of any Green-e™ document and a translated version, the English version shall prevail.

A. Structure of this Document

The Taiwan Standard is organized to provide information about all eligibility criteria for Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Products.

Section 1: Background on CRS and Green-e™ Energy, definitions in addition to the Green-e™ Glossary and the geographic coverage of the Taiwan Standard.

Section 2: Eligible types of Renewable Energy Products and the types of consumers that may purchase certified products.

Section 3: Eligibility requirements for renewable electricity generation facilities.

Section 4: Requirements for including all renewable energy benefits for the consumer, avoiding double counting and maintaining environmental impact.

Section 5: Verification, renewable electricity tracking systems and customer disclosure.
Section 6: Governance, revisions to the standard and grievances.

B. Definitions

Green-e™ Energy publishes a glossary that defines many of the terms used throughout the Taiwan Standard and other Green-e™ Energy documents. The glossary is available at www.green-e.org/glossary. Taiwan law and regulation may contain additional rules related to terms or concepts that appear in this document.

In addition, certain definitions specific to the Taiwan Standard are provided below:

**Energy Attribute Certificate ("EAC"):** A contractual instrument that represents and conveys all attributes of renewable electricity generation, without requiring that the electricity itself be sold with the attributes. Such attributes include, but are not limited to: the renewable resource type used to generate the electricity; the location of the generation; the time period (e.g. month) of generation; the air emissions associated with generation (i.e. the emissions factor or rate); all other legally available environmental benefits of generation; and all other information relevant to using and claiming the benefits of generation. When a generator delivers electricity to the grid, it is able to sell these attributes bundled together in the form of an EAC to another party who draws electricity from the grid, as a means of tracking who is buying and using the renewable electricity. EACs as defined here are intended to be consistent with The World Resources Institute’s Greenhouse Gas Protocol for the purposes of greenhouse gas accounting and Scope 2 claims.

**Energy Attribute Certificate Product:** This refers to EACs when they are marketed to electricity consumers as a way to use renewable electricity, without retail electricity supply necessarily being provided to the user by the EAC seller. See also Section II.A.2. Note that EACs must be used to substantiate the delivery of any type of Renewable Energy Product, not only EAC Products.

**Participant:** Entities entering into a Green-e™ certification agreement with CRS are referred to as “Participants” in this Taiwan Standard. Participants may be electricity retailers, sellers of renewable EACs, the sellers or purchasers under a renewable electricity power purchase agreement or entities undertaking other means of procuring and consuming renewable electricity; see Section II.B for further details. Each Participant must have one or more contracts with CRS in order for their Renewable Energy Products to be Green-e™ certified. Only Participants may market and sell Renewable Energy Products as Green-e™ certified. Unless specifically permitted by CRS, marketing renewable energy as Green-e™ “eligible” or “certifiable” (or using similar words that imply certification where it does not exist) is not allowed.

**Renewable Electricity Product:** Retail electricity supply that is sourced from eligible renewable resources and offered to electricity consumers, where both electricity and EACs are provided to the consumer. Renewable electricity products are one type of renewable energy product that can be Green-e™ certified, and are distinct from EAC Products (which do not include electricity supply). See also Section II.A.1.
Renewable Energy Product: The renewable energy procurement options certified by Participants under the Taiwan Standard are collectively referred to as “Renewable Energy Products”. See Sections II.A and II.B for details of which product types are eligible. Renewable Energy Products include all EAC Products and Renewable Electricity Products. Note that each Renewable Energy Product type is distinct and may be subject to different rules in the Taiwan Standard.

C. Usage and Geographic Range of the Criteria

These certification criteria are intended to be used by Green-e™ Energy Participants that are selling and/or using renewable electricity and EACs that are generated in Taiwan Proper, Kinmen, Matzu or Penghu (collectively “Taiwan” throughout this document). Participants must have an active contract of the appropriate type with CRS in order to claim certification under the Taiwan Standard, and must comply with all rules in order to remain certified under the Taiwan Standard year-on-year.

II. Eligible Product, Consumer and Market Types

A. Renewable Energy Product Types

1. Electricity Products: Electricity purchasing where electricity and EACs are delivered together as the consumer’s electricity supply, such as a self-usage, direct supply, wheeling or renewable electricity offered by an electric retailer.
2. Energy Attribute Certificate Products: Sale or use of EACs, independent from retail electricity supply.

B. Means of Renewable Energy Procurement

The product types in Section II.A above may be Green-e™ Energy certified when provided to users in the following ways, all of which require that the renewable attributes be conveyed to the consumer claiming to use renewable electricity:

1. Self-consumed from an owned on-site renewable electricity generator
2. Delivered via a direct electrical connection between the generator and the user
3. Delivered from the generator to the user through the electricity grid, for example through a power purchase agreement (“PPA”) or wheeling
4. Energy Attribute Certificates sold separately from electricity supply (if and when legally available in Taiwan)
5. Renewable electricity supply offered to consumers by electricity retailers

See also Section III.D.3 on eligibility of on-site generators providing electricity to the load on which it is installed versus exporting it to the grid.
C. Consumer Types

Certified Renewable Energy Products may be sold to any business or industrial retail electricity consumer (collectively “non-residential” consumers) or residential retail electricity consumers as allowed by law and regulation in effect at the time of sale (or at the time of use, in the case of Participants certifying their EAC purchases through a Green-e Direct contract with CRS).

Green-e does not endorse renewable electricity usage claims that are made by electricity users outside of Taiwan that buy a Renewable Energy Product certified under the Taiwan Standard, unless the consumer is applying the purchase to electricity consumed within Taiwan. Such claims may be allowed by other programs, however, so Green-e does not specifically prevent sales made to consumers outside of Taiwan. See also Section V.C on Consumer Disclosure.

III. Eligible Sources of Generation

The following criteria apply to all Green-e Energy certified Renewable Energy Products.

A. Renewable Resource Types

The following types of renewable electricity generation are eligible to be used in Green-e Energy certified Renewable Energy Products in Taiwan. Other technology/resource types may be added in future in response to market demand, consistent with the Framework.

1. Solar, including photovoltaic and solar thermal electric
2. On-shore wind
3. Off-shore wind
4. Geothermal
5. Ocean-based energy resources captured through tidal and wave technologies, if located in an area with permitting processes specific to the resource type at the time of construction and if the generator is fully licensed at the regional and central government level (as applicable).¹
6. Hydropower with a capacity of 20MW or less that is eligible under the Renewable Energy Development Act (REDA) and:
   a. Does not use an impoundment; or
   b. Is new generation capacity on an existing impoundment; or
   c. Is a turbine in a pipeline, irrigation canal or other conduit, as long as any energy used to create the flow of water/hydrostatic pressure is primarily for non-energy purposes such as transporting potable water, irrigation, or waste transport, and not for creating energy storage.

¹ The Green-e Governance Board reserves the right to conduct additional ad hoc review prior to the generator’s output being used in a Green-e Energy certified product and to reject facilities with serious environmental impacts. Green-e Energy Participants or generators of electricity using tidal- and wave-based resources should contact Green-e Energy staff with questions or materials related to eligibility.
Renewables from new impoundments of water are not eligible.

For hydropower projects that do not meet the applicable New Date (see Section II.E) but do meet all other relevant criteria in the Taiwan Standard, electrical energy increases due to improvements made on or after the applicable New Date may be eligible if:

- they are not due to routine maintenance (i.e. output would be increased compared to original design); and
- they do not increase water storage capacity or the head of an existing water reservoir; and
- independent third-party reporting demonstrates that increased annual generation of electrical energy will result from these improvements.

Also note that only the increased annual generation of electrical energy due to improvements is eligible for use in Green-e™ Energy certified products. Eligible improvements may include, but are not limited to, the following measures:

- Rewinding or replacing the existing generator
- Replacing turbines or significantly modifying turbine runners
- Addition a minimum flow unit at an existing facility
- Computerizing control

CRS staff must review and approve improvements prior to the hydro facility’s increased output being used in a Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Product.

B. Vintage of Eligible Renewable Generation

A Renewable Energy Product certified under the Taiwan Standard and sold in a particular calendar year (January 1 – December 31) may include only renewable electricity that is generated during any of the following periods:

- The six months before the calendar year in which the Renewable Energy Product is sold;
- The calendar year of sale; or
- The first three months of the following calendar year.

C. Generator Age and “New Date”

For the output of a renewable electricity generator to be eligible for use in a Green-e™ Energy certified transaction made in a particular calendar year, the generator itself must meet at least one of the following conditions in relation to the applicable New Date (defined below), to encourage and support new renewable capacity:
1. The generator was first placed in operation and on the grid on or after the New Date that is applicable to the calendar year of sale; or
2. The generator is a separable improvement to or enhancement, made on or after the applicable New Date, of an existing operating generator that was first placed in operation prior to the applicable New Date, such that the proposed incremental generation is contractually available for sale and metered separately from the existing generation at the generator.

The New Date that is applicable to a given year of sale of a Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Product is shown on the following table, with the New Date continuing to advance by one year each year after 2034:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Certified Renewable Energy Product is Sold</th>
<th>Applicable New Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020-2031</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2032</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2033</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2034</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Long-term purchases or use of renewable electricity or EACs, where the purchase contracts were executed between the generator and purchaser of the certified Renewable Energy Product within 12 months of the date that a generator first met one of criteria 1. – 2. above and where the term of the contract extends beyond 15 years, may be allowed to remain eligible for the entirely of the contract term or 25 years, whichever is shorter.

**D. Location of Eligible Generators**

1. **Geographic Location**

Generators providing electricity or EACs for certified Renewable Energy Products must be located within Taiwan. EACs may be traded across the islands listed in Section I.B. All on-site generation facilities must be located on structures compliant with relevant existing building codes, regulations and laws.

2. **Grid-Connected Generators**

   a. **Renewable Energy Products that are sold by a Participant to a retail customer**

   Generators must be one of the following:
   i. Directly connected to a grid; or
   ii. Connected behind the meter to a grid-connected electricity user; or

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2 Test electricity put onto the grid before a generator’s official operational date can be eligible for use in a certified Renewable Energy Product.
3 For example, a certified Renewable Energy Product sold in 2031 would have to use generation from generators that came online during or after 2017. The next year, in 2032, the New Date would increase to 2018, and any generators built in 2017 would no longer be eligible. This rule allows generators up to 15 full calendar years from their online date to provide output that is eligible for use in a Green-e™ certified Renewable Energy Product.

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iii. Part of a microgrid that is able to connect to the grid; or  
iv. Part of a microgrid that is not able to connect to the grid, but generators are only eligible when the retail customer receiving the Renewable Energy Product is connected to the same microgrid as the generator.

b. Renewable Energy Products used and certified by the Participant itself

Generators must be:  
i. Directly connected to a grid; or  
ii. Connected behind the meter to a grid-connected electricity user; or  
iii. Part of a microgrid that is able to connect to the grid; or  
iv. Part of a microgrid to which the Participant is connected; or  
v. Electrically connected to the Participant; in this case the generator is not required to be grid-connected or co-located with the Participant.

3. Consumer-Sited Generators

Generators co-located with electricity load are eligible for all Renewable Energy Product types. See also Sections III.D.2 on grid connection and IV.C on claims.

E. Emissions Limits

All generation facilities must be in compliance with all applicable laws/rules regarding emissions limits and other relevant emissions-related criteria.

F. Parasitic Load

Renewable electricity consumed as parasitic load (load that contributes to the process of electricity generation) of an eligible generator is not eligible.

IV. Renewable Energy Product Specifications

A. Fully Aggregated Renewable Generation Attributes

To the extent allowable under Taiwan’s legal and regulatory structures, all attributes that can be owned that are associated with the electricity generation must be aggregated in a certified Renewable Energy Product. None of the attributes of generation may be sold off, transferred, or claimed elsewhere or by another party. There must be a legally enforceable contract, instrument (e.g. EAC), or collection of contracts and/or instruments in place to substantiate the exchange and exclusive ownership of the attributes of renewable electricity generation. These attributes include, but are not limited to, all the greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emission benefits associated with the unit of renewable electricity when it was generated, including avoided carbon dioxide (“CO2”) benefits. If a generator receives carbon offsets for an amount of renewable electricity
generation, those offsets must be retired on behalf of the certified sale of that renewable electricity/those corresponding EACs.

1. Energy Attribute Certificates

Energy Attribute Certificates, if issued for the transacted generation, must be included and retired/cancelled by or on behalf of the retail user of a Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Product. All environmental attributes must be included in certified transactions, whether or not EACs are issued.

2. Carbon Legislation/Regulation

Article 8 of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Management Act requires a carbon cap-and-trade program to be implemented in Taiwan. Once the program is implemented, CRS will evaluate the program and update the Taiwan Standard as necessary.

Article 28 of the Electricity Act requires that electricity sold by an Electricity Retailing Utility Enterprise meet certain carbon emission factor levels. Renewable electricity and EACs used to comply with Article 28 are not eligible for use in a Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Product.

B. Regulatory Surplus: Renewable Quotas, Targets, Other Mandates and Incentives

Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Products must be comprised of eligible renewable generation over and above any amount required by applicable requirements or legislation. Green-e™ Energy does not certify renewable electricity or EAC sales that result in double counting, including double counting between regulatory compliance markets and voluntary markets.

EACs or renewable electricity from generators that obtain tax or financial incentive payments unrelated to delivery of renewable electricity to a particular buyer or user are eligible under Green-e™ Energy (to the extent allowed by law, regulation, and contract language governing the tax or financial incentives program), so long as these incentives do not also claim the EACs or other attributes.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of how certain specific renewable energy policies in Taiwan are treated.

1. Renewable Energy Development Act and City- and County-Level Renewable Electricity Requirements

Renewable energy used for compliance with any of the following renewable energy purchasing requirements is not eligible for use in a Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Product:

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4 Examples include Certified Emissions Reductions issued for the generator under the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol or a voluntary carbon offset standard for which the generator has registered.

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The Renewable Energy Development Act requirements for retail electricity consumers contracting for a certain capacity to generate or purchase a minimum amount of renewable electricity; or

A city- or county-level renewable electricity quota

However, on a case-by-case basis and depending on the rules of the applicable above regulation, CRS may at its sole discretion allow such required renewable energy procurement to be included in a Green-e certified Renewable Electricity Product that provides 100% of the obligated purchaser’s electricity needs.

2. **Feed-In Tariff**

Renewable electricity generation that receives the Feed-In Tariff (“FIT”) is not eligible for use in a Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Product.

3. **Double Counting, Double Selling, and Double Claiming**

A given amount of eligible renewable electricity and any associated attributes can be applied to an electricity consumer’s claim of using renewable electricity only once. Renewable electricity or attributes that can be reasonably attributed to a party other than the user of a certified Renewable Energy Product may not be used in Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Products. Examples of prohibited double uses include, but are not limited to:

1. When the same megawatt-hour (“MWh”) or attributes are sold to more than one party, or any case where another party has a conflicting contract for the attributes or the renewable electricity;
2. When the same MWh is claimed by more than one party, including any expressed or implied environmental claims made pursuant to electricity coming from a renewable electricity resource, environmental labeling or disclosure requirements. This includes representing the electricity from which attributes are derived as renewable if the EACs are not also owned and retired/cancelled;
3. When the same MWh is used by an electricity provider or other entity to meet a delivery or consumption mandate for renewable energy (such as a quota) and is also used in certified sales, transactions, or consumption under Green-e™ Energy; or
4. When another party uses one or more attributes of the renewable generation (See Section IV.A. on Fully Aggregated Renewables for details). This includes when a MWh or associated attributes are sold as a Renewable Energy Product to one party, and one or more attributes associated with the same MWh of generation (such as CO2 reduction or offset) are sold to another party.

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5 For further resources on double claims, see [www.resource-solutions.org/learn/rec-claims-and-ownership/](http://www.resource-solutions.org/learn/rec-claims-and-ownership/)

6 An example of such representations includes use of the renewable energy in calculating product or portfolio resource mixes for the purpose of marketing or disclosing to electricity end-users when the attributes have been sold off or claimed separately.
In all cases, the relevant government agency or agencies in Taiwan must be notified, by or on behalf of the Participant in writing at least annually, of all generation used in Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Products. A renewable energy tracking system or other infrastructure that already provides this information to the relevant agency or agencies) may satisfy this requirement if approved by Green-e™ Energy.

**D. Minimum Purchase Quantity**

Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Products sold to non-residential electricity consumers have no minimum purchase quantity requirement.

Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Products sold to residential electricity consumers must contain at least the following minimum amounts of Green-e™ Energy eligible renewable energy:

1. **EACs**: When sold on a one-time basis to a residential electricity consumer, the minimum allowable purchase quantity is 75 kilowatt-hours (“kWh”). If sold on an ongoing basis to a residential electricity consumer, the minimum allowable purchase quantity is 100 kWh per month.
2. **Renewable electricity programs that provide certified renewable electricity in kilowatt-hours**: 100 kWh per month.
3. **Renewable electricity programs that offer a percentage of electricity delivered as certified renewable**: Must provide at least 25% of electricity usage with eligible new renewables. If a Participant offers the option to provide less than 50% of a residential electricity consumer’s electricity use, they must also offer a 100% option to residential electricity consumers.

**V. Additional Criteria**

**A. Third Party Verification**

Green-e™ Energy certification requires that certified Renewable Energy Products undergo an annual verification process to substantiate certified product-related purchases, sales, and claims. The Green-e™ Energy Participant must employ an independent qualified auditor to conduct this verification in accordance with verification procedures supplied by CRS. Required auditor qualifications are specified in the Green-e™ Energy Taiwan Verification Requirements [this document is not available at the time of stakeholder comment]. The results of the verification and selected supporting documents must be made available to CRS, and verification is not considered completed until all materials are submitted and accepted as complete and final by CRS. All audit costs are the responsibility of the Green-e™ Energy Participant undergoing verification.
B. Use of EACs and Renewable Energy Tracking Systems

All renewable MWh used in Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Products must be tracked in a renewable energy tracking system that is approved by Green-e™ Energy. As of the date of publication of the Taiwan Standard, the Taiwan Renewable Energy Certification (“T-REC”) Center’s renewable energy tracking system is approved to track EACs that are used in Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Products. Additional details on the use of this system, as well as a list of any other approved tracking systems, are available at www.green-e.org.

For all eligible generation used toward a Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Product, each Green-e™ Energy Participant must use an account in an approved tracking system to substantiate the Participant’s certified sales in a given calendar year following procedures in the Green-e™ verification protocols.

All costs associated with use of any approved tracking system are the responsibility of tracking system users. Tracking systems seeking approval under the Taiwan Standard will be assessed by CRS against the applicable criteria in the Framework.

C. Consumer Disclosure

Participants selling Green-e™ Energy certified Renewable Energy Products must disclose product information (including price, terms and conditions, a product content label and that the Renewable Energy Product is certified under the Taiwan Standard) to each consumer prior to their purchase of the Renewable Energy Product. Participants must also make additional disclosures in the case that the Renewable Energy Product changes during the term of the purchase agreement with the affected consumer. Required disclosures will be detailed in the applicable Green-e™ Energy Code of Conduct.

D. Additional Requirements for Renewable Electricity Products

1. Regulatory Approval of Electricity Products

For certified Renewable Electricity Products offered by government-owned or government-regulated electricity providers, certification is only available to such products that have been approved, prior to the product’s nomination for certification, by the appropriate regulatory or oversight body with jurisdiction over the program.

2. Pricing of Electricity Products

For Renewable Electricity Products approved under Section V.D.1, the “above-market” costs of the bundled renewable electricity or EACs used for a certified Renewable Electricity Product shall be allocated only to customers of the approved product. If such costs are related to public policy initiatives that the electricity provider’s regulators deem acceptable to be paid by all customers (not only by the customers of the certified product), the electricity provider may appeal to the Green-e™ Governance Board for approval of the electricity product.
VI. Governance and Revisions to the Standard

The Taiwan Standard is a dynamic document and may be updated over time to accommodate changes in renewable electricity markets, policy changes that affect renewable energy, and/or innovations in renewable energy technology, as well as to reflect relevant changes in the Framework. Please see Section VI of the Framework for details on Governance and on the impacts of changes to Green-e™ rules, which also apply to the Taiwan Standard.

Details of the standard-setting process and of how to submit comments or grievances are available at: www.green-e.org/about_standards.shtml