

Annual Sustainability Report 2010-11

Report

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Overview:

Under the provisions of the Renewables Obligation (RO), the Renewables Obligation (Scotland) (ROS) and the Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation (NIRO), generating stations using biomass with a declared net capacity greater than 50kW are required to submit a sustainability report to Ofgem. This report is submitted on an annual basis and covers the feedstock used in each obligation period. This document details the second year of reporting.

Context

The Renewables Obligation (RO), the Renewables Obligation (Scotland) (ROS) and the Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation (NIRO) are the main support schemes for renewable electricity projects in the UK. They place an obligation on UK suppliers of electricity to source an increasing proportion of their electricity from renewable sources. Suppliers can meet their obligations by presenting sufficient Renewables Obligation Certificates (ROCs) to cover their obligations. Where suppliers do not have sufficient ROCs to meet their obligation, they are required to pay an equivalent amount into a fund. This fund is then paid back on a pro-rata basis to those suppliers that have presented ROCs. From 1 April 2009, the Obligation changed from a percentage to an obligation to present a number of ROCs. In 2010-11 this was 11.1 ROCs per 100 MWh supplied in England and Wales and Scotland, and 4.27 ROCs per 100 MWh supplied in Northern Ireland.

Generating stations with a declared net capacity greater than 50kW using biomass fuel are required to submit an annual sustainability report to Ofgem under Article 54¹ of the Renewables Obligation Order 2009 (as amended). Further publications of the Annual Sustainability Report will take into account amendments made to the RO such as the recent land use and greenhouse gas (GHG) emission criteria.

Associated documents

Readers should be aware of the following documents which support this publication.

- Sustainability Report on biomass fuelled generating stations for 2010-11 obligation period dataset²
- [Sustainability Report on biomass fuelled generating stations for 2009/10 obligation period](#)³
- [Renewables Obligation Order 2009 \(as amended\)](#)⁴
- [Renewables Obligation: Sustainability criteria for bioliquids](#)⁵
- [Renewables Obligation: Fuel measurement and sampling guidance](#)⁶

¹ Article 54 of the (Renewables Obligation Scotland) Order 2009 (as amended) and Article 46 of the Renewables Obligation Order (Northern Ireland) 2009 (as amended) also refer

² Published as an associated document to this report.

³http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Sustainability/Environment/RenewablObl/FuelledStations/Documents1/SR%20Master%20report_publish.xls

⁴ www.legislation.gov.uk

⁵<http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Sustainability/Environment/RenewablObl/FuelledStations/Documents1/RO%20sustainability%20criteria%20for%20bioliquids%20guidance.pdf>

⁶<http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Sustainability/Environment/RenewablObl/FuelledStations/Documents1/FMS%20April%202011.pdf> – Chapter 4. 'Sustainability reporting'



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1. Introduction

Summary

This section provides background on the sustainability criteria requirements of the Renewables Obligation Order (ROO) 2009 (as amended).

Policy Context

- 1.1. In 2009 the Renewables Obligation Order (ROO) introduced the requirements for generating stations using biomass fuels to report against sustainability criteria.
- 1.2. This report details the second reporting year against these criteria and summarises key findings.
- 1.3. Information reported by participants include biomass form, type, mass/volume, by-product, country of origin, country of purchase, energy crop (including type and proportion), environmental quality assurance schemes and the land use.
- 1.4. We continue to work closely with industry to provide participants with key advice on the nature and format of the information required. This includes the recent amendments that were introduced on 1st April 2011. These amendments introduce additional informational requirements including land use and greenhouse gas emissions.

2. Year of Sustainability

Summary

This section collates selected information provided to us by generators through the 2010-11 obligation period.

- 2.1. The figures reported below and the published sustainability report dataset are based on information as reported by participants. Legislation sets out that information must be reported to the best of operator's knowledge and belief.
- 2.2. Whilst Ofgem has reviewed this data to ensure the questions were answered as intended by legislation, we have not verified the information. Furthermore, Ofgem do not seek to pass judgement on the sustainability of fuels or an organisation in this 2010-11 Sustainability Report.

Overview of Sustainability Information⁷

5m

Tonnes of solid biomass & energy crop reported

14.5m

Litres of bioliquid consumed

100%

British Isle sourced energy crops

53%

Of responses have sourced feedstock with a known land use

62%

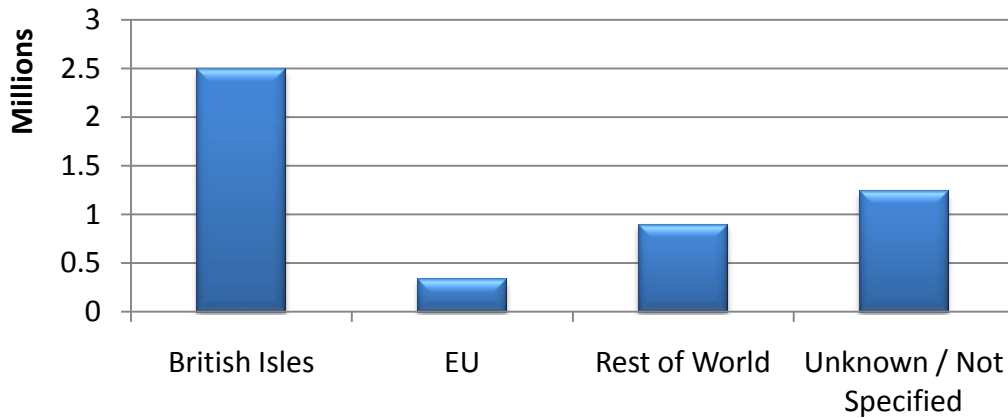
Increase in energy crop usage since 2009-10 Annual Sustainability Report

46.5m

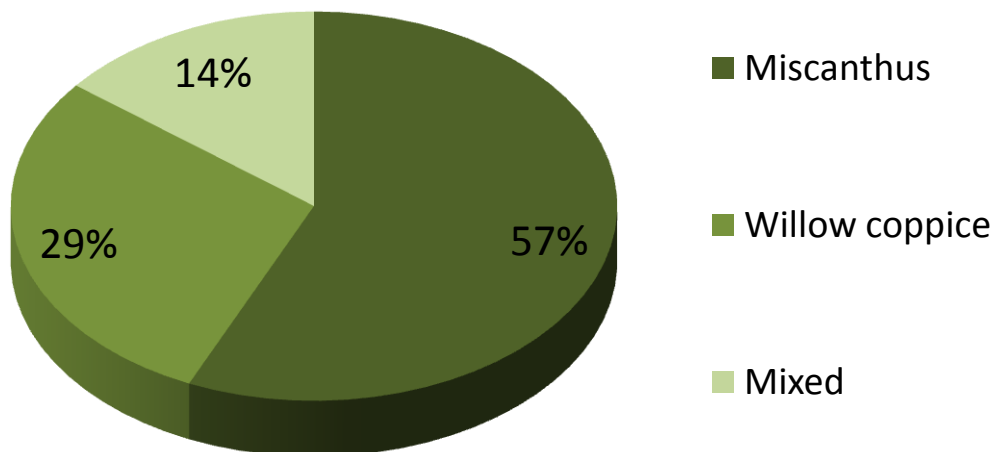
Cubic metres of biogas from anaerobic digestion produced and used

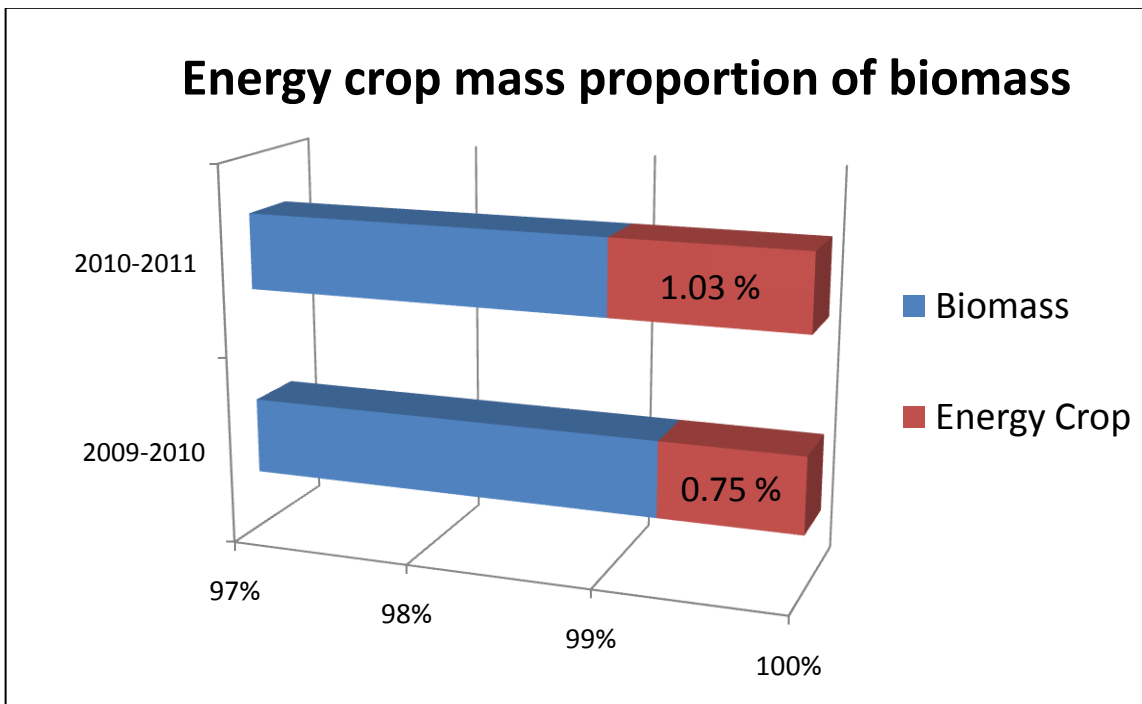
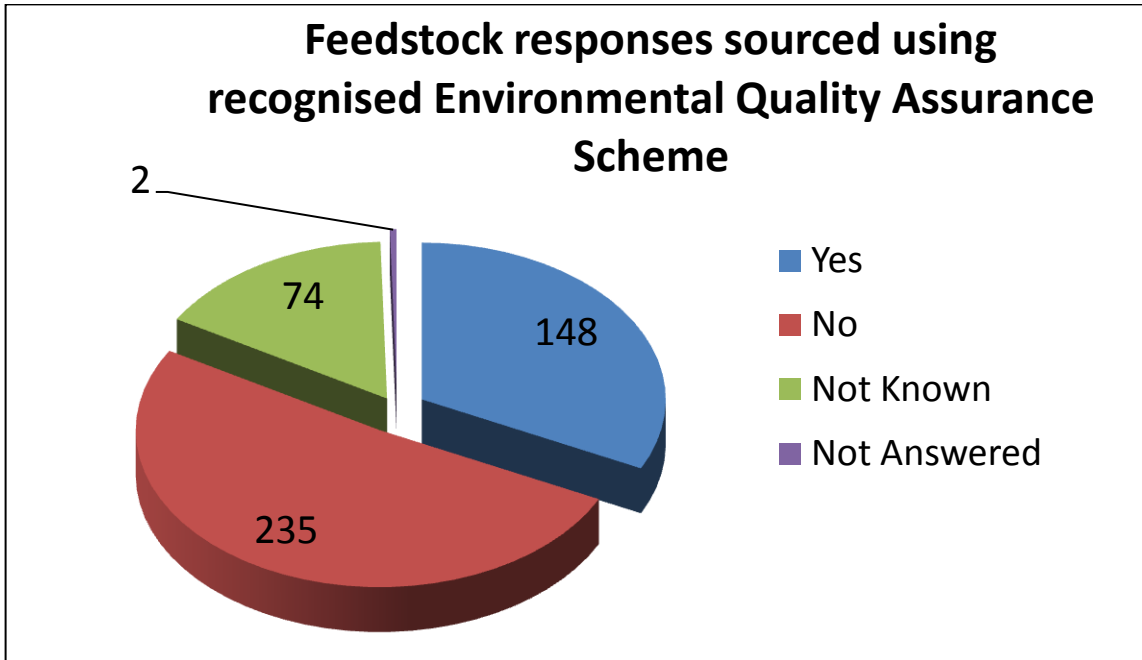
⁷ Please note these values have been rounded

Tonnes biomass used to generate electricity, by source



Tonnes energy crop by type





Appendix 1 - Feedback Questionnaire

This is the first report Ofgem has compiled for reporting on sustainability criteria. Any feedback you give will be helpful for future sustainability reporting. Please provide feedback on the following questions:

1. Do you have any comments about the overall tone and content of the report?
2. Was the report easy to read and understand, could it have been better written?
3. To what extent did the report's conclusions provide a balanced view?
4. Please add any further comments?

Please send your comments to:

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