Renewables Obligation output data

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This document provides a brief overview of why output data submissions are required under the Renewables Obligation (RO) scheme, when readings should be taken and how they should be submitted to Ofgem.

Why do I have to submit output data?

In order to be issued with Renewables Obligation Certificates (ROCs), you need to submit data to us via our Renewables and CHP Register (the Register). If your station is accredited under the Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) scheme, the data submitted will also be used to calculate any REGOs you are due. Output data submissions should reflect, for the month in question:

1. the total amount of electricity generated by your station (REGOs are issued on this figure only)

2. the amount of electricity exported to the network, and

3. the amount of electricity used by your station eg that which has been imported from the grid

Data submissions must be accurate and reflect the month of generation in question only. As such, readings should be taken from an appropriate meter at the start/end of every month. When making your first claim under the scheme, the opening meter reading should be taken on the later of the station's commissioning date or the date on which you make your RO application.

If your station is commissioned but your application is still being processed, please still take meter readings and submit output data to us. Please do not wait for accreditation to be granted.

When am I required to submit output data?

Generation data must be provided to us monthly, within the legislative deadline which is before the end of the second month following the month of generation. For example, data that reflects electricity generated in January, should be submitted to us no later than the 31 March that follows.

How do I submit output data?

1. Go to the Renewables and CHP Register and log into your generator account

2. Click on the "Output Data" tab, then choose "Submit Output Data"

3. Using the drop-down menus, choose the station and month of generation you are submitting data for

Once this has been done, the output data submission page will be displayed. An example of this is shown on the following page.

Electricity produced

	kWh generated
Total quantity of electricity produced *	489162.000000 ⓵

1. This should contain the total electricity generated by your station in the relevant month. The figure entered into this box is used to calculate your REGO claim.

Output

Type of export output	kWh generated
Export only ▽	489162.000000 ②

2. From the drop-down list, you should select the type of output for which you are claiming ROCs. Options are:

- Gross output – the total amount of electricity generated by your station

- Export - electricity exported to the network

- Export and own use – all electricity exported to the network and eligible own use

Input electricity

Type of input	kWh generated
Import *	4141.000000 ③
Is 'import' to be deducted from LEC issue?	NO ④
Generated by the generating station *	0.000000 ⑤
Is the 'generated' input electricity already deducted from output? *	NO ▽ ⑥

- Export and export through an exempt distribution network - claiming on any electricity exported to the network or to an exempt distribution network

- Other - this should be explained further in the comments box

3. Please enter the total import for the station here. This figure represents all the electricity imported and used by your station when it is not generating electricity. If your station has more than one import connection, the figure entered should include import at both high and low voltage. It is a legislative requirement that any electricity used by a station in any given month is reported to us.

4. This field relates to LECs and so has no bearing on ROC issue. Send your queries about this to the CCL/REGO team on CCLandREGO@ofgem.gov.uk.

5. If it is metered, this should include any electricity generated by the generating station and used to operate the generating station. If electricity used by your station is taken off before your meter(s) used for ROC claim purposes, please enter '0'.

6. From the drop-down list, you should select an answer explaining whether the electricity generated by the generating station that is used by it has already been deducted from the figure entered in Field 2. This is necessary for calculating the ROC claim figure.

If you have added capacity to your generating station since it was first accredited and that capacity has been approved by us, the page will look like this:

Electricity produced

	kWh generated	MPAN/Meter serial num
Total quantity of electricity produced *	107335.060000	

Output

	Type of export output	kWh generated
Total Export Output	Export only ⌄	107335.060000 7
Export Output from original capacity		35,631.268633 8
Export Output from original capacity 1		71,703.791367 9

Input electricity

Type of input	kWh generated	MPAN/Meter serial num
Total Import	112.573000	
Original capacity import	37.370071 10	
Additional capacity 1 import	75.202929 11	
Is 'import' to be deducted from LEC issue?	NO ⌄	
Total generated by the generating station	0.000000 12	
Original generated by the generating station	NO 13	
Additional capacity 1 generated station by the generating station	0.000000 14	
Is the 'generated' input electricity already deducted from output?	NO ⌄	

7. From the drop-down list, you should select the type of output for which you are claiming ROCs. Options are:

- Gross output – claiming on total electricity generated with no deductions

- Export - electricity exported to the grid only

- Export and own use - claiming on all electricity exported and own use

- Export and export through an exempt distribution network - cclaiming on any electricity exported to the grid or to an exempt distribution network

- Other - this should be explained further in the comments box

8 & 9. The output data you submit will be automatically pro-rated by the Register across multiple capacities.

12. This should include any electricity generated by the generating station and used for operating the generating station. If you do not use any electricity generated by the generating station, please enter '0'.

Fields 10, 11, 13 and 14 will be automatically populated by the Register.

Use the "certificates breakdown" button at the bottom of the page before submitting to see if the correct number of certificates will be issued by us.

If you need help submitting your output data, email renewable@ofgem.gov.uk or phone 020 7901 7310 (option 2).

Do I need to submit import data?

Yes. The RO legislation requires that input electricity is submitted along with gross output data by the deadline referred to above. "Input electricity" covers electricity that has been imported from the grid when a station is not generating or electricity generated by the station. It also includes any electricity generated by a standby generator and used by the station. As with gross output data, input electricity must be measured using an appropriate meter.

Regardless if it is imported or generated, input electricity is electricity used for a purpose directly related to a station's operation eg for fuel handling, fuel preparation or maintenance. Once all data has been entered, the Register will calculate if the input electricity is greater than 0.5% of gross output and deduct it if it is.

What happens if I submit my data late?

If you submit data later than two months after the month of generation, it will be considered 'late' and suspended on the Register. When submitting late data, you will have the opportunity to explain the reason why you missed the deadline. When doing this, please make your explanation as clear as possible. We then have the discretion to accept the late data and issue the ROCs if we consider it appropriate to do so. We will look to be pragmatic about this, but if data is submitted to us late on more than two occasions for the same station, the relevant ROCs will generally not be issued.

If you suspect your data is going to be late, you should tell us in advance of the deadline by emailing to renewable@ofgem.gov.uk.

What do I do if I cannot obtain accurate metered data?

The default requirement of the RO is that data submissions should be based on readings taken from an appropriate meter. Despite this, the legislation is flexible and will allow us to accept estimated data for ROC issue if a generator satisfies us that it will never be possible for them to provide accurate data. The method for estimating will need to be agreed in advance of submitting output data via the Register.

We'd expect estimates to be conservative and ideally supported with previous data trends and/or supplementary readings that have been taken from any secondary monitoring system that might be in place. We are unlikely to accept estimates on an ongoing basis and would be concerned if multiple estimate requests were made for the same station.

Please email renewable@ofgem.gov.uk if you wish to submit an estimated data case.

What do I do if I realise the data I entered was incorrect?

If you realise that any of the data you entered was incorrect, you must go back into the register and amend the data for the specific month that you identified the error. You must not amend data for other months to account for any errors. Once you have amended the data please email renewable@ofgem.gov.uk with the station name, the month/s for which you have amended and the reason why. We will issue any additional ROCs due or revoke any that should not have been issued.

More information

Please ensure you read our guidance and the information on our website before making an application to us.

You can email any queries to renewable@ofgem.gov.uk or phone 020 7901 7310 (option 2).