Renewables Obligation (RO)

November 2020

Banked ROCs from the 2019/20 Obligation Period

This guidance is for applicants and operators who may be eligible to claim Renewable Obligation Certificates (ROCs), or who have ROCs in their account that can be transferred to a licenced electricity supplier or other ROC purchaser. It provides a brief overview of Banked ROCs and the impact on applications, output data submissions and certificate transfers

What are Banked ROCs ?

Renewables Obligation Certificates (ROCs) are electronic certificates issued to operators of accredited generating stations based on the net renewable electricity generated by their station.

'Banked ROCs' are ROCs relating to electricity generated in the previous compliance period. For example, ROCs issued for generation during the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 must be presented to us by a licensed electricity supplier by 1 September 2021.

Why are Banked ROCs important?

If 'Banked ROCs' are not issued by Ofgem and transferred to a licensed electricity supplier or other ROC purchaser in a timely manner, they will expire and effectively lose their financial value. This is because licenced electricity suppliers cannot use them after 1 September 2021.

If accredited, my station will have an accreditation date of on or before 31 March 2020. What should I do?

ROCs can only be issued to accredited generating stations.

If your station is eligible for ROCs in the 2019/20 period and has not yet been accredited, it is essential that you respond promptly to any queries we have raised on your application. We will need time to review your responses and ask that you provide as much information as possible to inform our accreditation decision.

You should also ensure that you have submitted output data for your generating

station on a monthly basis. By doing this, assuming the station is accredited, we can quickly move to assessing the data and issuing any certificates that are due.

How do I claim ROCs?

If you are eligible to claim ROCs for the 2019/20 period, you must:

- Submit gross generation and input electricity on the Renewables and CHP Register.

- Respond swiftly to any queries we have raised regarding your submission.

In absence of the data being submitted to us, ROCs cannot be issued, even if accreditation is granted. Please refer to our output data FAQ for more information.

It is the generator's responsibility to submit accurate data on time. Please refer to the 2020/21 ROC issue schedule for more information. Any submissions that have been made to us outside the statutory two month deadline will take additional time to process and may not be accepted.

It is very important to note that the last date we anticipate we'll issue 2019/20 ROCs is 26 August 2021. It is important to note that in most cases we would expect all the information to be gathered and submitted well ahead of this date. Data that is late may not be accepted and ROCs may not be issued.

I have ROCs in my generator account, what do I need to do?

RO scheme participants that have 2019/20 ROCs in their accounts are responsible for transferring them to licensed electricity suppliers or other ROC purchasers.

Licensed electricity suppliers must redeem any 2019/20 'Banked ROCs' by 1 September 2021.

Most licensed electricity supplier will look to finalise their submission well in advance of the 1 September so please contact the party you are trading with to confirm final date for ROC transfer.

Failure to transfer 2019/20 ROCs in advance of this deadline may result in any ROCs in your account expiring and thereby becoming worthless.

I'm not sure if I have Banked ROCs

Please contact us to discuss any ROCs you might have in your account or any general queries regarding this guidance. We are here to help and can be contacted:

By email:Renewable.enquiry@ofgem.gov.uk
By phone: 020 7901 7310

Due to the current COVID-19 crisis our phone lines are operating a revised service. To see our phone line opening times please go to our contact us webpage.