

## **Renewable heat obligation certificate**

(1) The scheme administrator shall, subject to this section and any regulations made under *Head 14 (1) (c) and (2)*, upon application under *Head 14 (3)-(8), (11) and (14)* issue a certificate (in this Act referred to as a “renewable heat obligation certificate”) to an account holder in respect of–

(a) each gigajoule of renewable fuel, and

(b) each gigajoule of biomethane produced in the State,

disposed of (whether by sale or otherwise) by the account holder for heating purposes in the State during the obligation period concerned.

(2) A renewable heat obligation certificate issued under *subsection (1)(a)* shall have a value of 1 gigajoule for the purposes of discharging the Renewable Heat Obligation.

(3) A renewable heat obligation certificate issued under *subsection (1)(b)* shall have a value of 0.5 gigajoule for the purposes of discharging the Renewable Heat Obligation and shall be issued in addition to a certificate under *paragraph (a)*.

(4) A renewable heat obligation certificate shall specify the fuel category in respect of which it was issued.

(5) The scheme administrator shall issue a renewable heat obligation certificate by recording a credit of a certificate in the renewable heat obligation account of the account holder for the fuel category in respect of which it was issued.

(6) A renewable heat obligation certificate shall be valid for a period beginning on the first day of the obligation period concerned in which the renewable fuel was disposed of as referred to in *subsection (1)* and ending on the final day of the second obligation period occurring immediately after the end of the obligation period concerned (in this Act referred to as the "period of validity").

(7) It shall be a condition of a renewable heat obligation certificate that the account holder to whom the certificate issued complies with *Head 18*.

(8) The scheme administrator shall not issue a renewable heat obligation certificate to an account holder if any amount due and owing under *Head 10* or *Part 4* remains outstanding.

(9) The scheme administrator shall not, during the period beginning on the commencement of this section and ending on 31 December 2045, issue a renewable heat obligation certificate in respect of any bioliquids or biogas produced from high ILUC-risk feedstock.

**Notes:**

1. This draft section, once enacted, will give effect to the policy requirements set out in Head 7(5), Head 14 (1) (a) and (b), (9), (10), (12) and (13) and Head 15 of the General Scheme.
2. References to Heads or Parts in this draft section are to Heads or Parts of the General Scheme and will in future refer to the relevant sections that will give effect to those Heads.
3. The following terms are used in this draft section, which will be defined as follows:

“account holder” means the fuel supplier or producer or supplier of fuel in respect of which the scheme administrator opens a renewable fuel account under *Head 11 (1) and (2) and Head 12 or Head 11 (3) to (15)*;

“fuel category” means a category of fuels referred to in *paragraphs (a) to (d) of Head 7(1)*;

“obligation period” means a period specified by or under *Head 8* to which a specified rate of renewable heat obligation applies;

“renewable fuel” means energy from renewable non-fossil sources, including but not limited to biogas, bioliquids, biomass fuels and renewable fuels of non-biological origin;

“Renewable Heat Obligation” has the meaning assigned to it by *Head 7(2)*;

“renewable heat obligation account” has the meaning assigned to it by *Head 11(1)*.