Better Biomass interpretation document for RCVB

Date	2025-11-28
Supersedes	n.a.
Explanation	Amendments in view of complying with RCVB

This document provides interpretations of requirements related to the following documents of the Better Biomass certification system in relation to the Regeling conformiteitsbeoordeling vaste biomassa voor energietoepassingen (RCVB)

- NTA 8080-3:2024, Sustainability framework for biomass – Part 3: Requirements for greenhouse gas calculations

Changes in relation to the RCVB are in red.

NTA 8080-3:2024+A1:2025, Sustainability framework for biomass – Part 3: Requirements for greenhouse gas calculations

1 Scope

…

2 Normative references

…

3 Terms and definitions

…

4 Principles

…

4.2 When biomass is used for energy (e.g. biofuel, biogas, bioliquid and biomass fuel), the net greenhouse gas emissions saving relative to the fossil-based reference system is required to meet a minimum percentage in order to be qualified as energy from renewable sources, provided that also other sustainability requirements are met.

The minimum net greenhouse gas emissions saving relative to fossil reference system for application in transport, electricity, heating or cooling, as specified in NTA 8080-2:2024+A1:2025, 5.1.1 are:

— at least 50 % for biofuels, biogas consumed in the transport sector, and bioliquids produced in installations in operation on or before 5 October 2015

— at least 60 % for biofuels, biogas consumed in the transport sector, and bioliquids produced in installations starting operation from 6 October 2015 until 31 December 2020

— at least 65 % for biofuels, biogas consumed in the transport sector, and bioliquids produced in installations starting operation from 1 January 2021

— [A1> for electricity, heating and cooling production from biomass fuels used in installations that started operating after 20 November 2023, at least 80%;

— for electricity, heating and cooling production from biomass fuels used in installations with a total rated thermal input equal to or exceeding 10 MW that started operating between 1 January 2021 and 20 November 2023, at least 70% until 31 December 2029, and at least 80% from 1 January 2030;

— for electricity, heating and cooling production from gaseous biomass fuels used in installations with a total rated thermal input equal to or lower than 10 MW that started operating between 1 January 2021 and 20 November 2023, at least 70% before they have been operating for 15 years, and at least 80 % after they have been in operation for 15 years;

— for electricity, heating and cooling production from biomass fuels used in installations with a total rated thermal input equal to or exceeding 10 MW that started operating before 1

January 2021, at least 80% after they have been operating for 15 years, at the earliest from 1 January 2026 and at the latest from 31 December 2029;

— for electricity, heating and cooling production from gaseous biomass fuels used in installations with a total rated thermal input equal to or lower than 10 MW that started operating before 1 January 2021, at least 80% after they have been operating for 15 years and at the earliest from 1 January 2026. <A1]

Additionally, within the scope of the RCVB, the following minimum net greenhouse gas emissions saving applies:

— at least 60 % for electricity, heating and cooling production from biomass fuels used in installations starting operation on or before 31 December 2020, and 70 % as annual average for solid biomass used in installations starting operation on or before 31 December 2020

NOTE: This RCBV sustainability requirement also applies to installations that started operation before 2021 and applies to installations irrespective of their size in MW.

An installation is considered to be in operation once the physical production of fuel, heat or cooling, or electricity has started (i.e. once the production of fuels including biofuels, biogas or bioliquids, or production of heat, cooling or electricity from biomass fuels has started).

5 Greenhouse gas calculations for biofuels and bioliquids

…

6 Greenhouse gas calculations for biomass fuels

…

7 Use of default values, actual values and disaggregated default values

…