



Energy crop eligibility assessment sheet

under the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000*

FORM
CER-RET-041
v2.0 12/01/2021

Purpose of this form

The Clean Energy Regulator requires reporting on the source and supply of energy crops used by accredited power stations when Large-scale Generation Certificates (LGCs) are created for their electricity generation.

Reporting requirement for energy crops accredited power stations

Assurance is required and evidence must be retained that energy crops used by accredited power stations comply with requirements under the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulations 2001*. Appropriate evidence consists of weighbridge slips, transport dockets or invoices for wood waste accepted at the power station.

Nominated persons for energy crop accredited power stations are required to furnish relevant information via this form when they claim LGCs.

The Clean Energy Regulator conducts desktop audits on the information supplied by accredited power stations to ensure that LGCs are eligible for registration. The Clean Energy Regulator may require the nominated person to provide additional information to determine the eligibility of LGCs. The Clean Energy Regulator has additional powers to support compliance monitoring under the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000*.

Information

Energy crops is prescribed under Regulation 9 of the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulations 2001* as

- (1) biomass from a plantation where all the following apply to it:
 - (a) it must be a product of a harvesting operation (including thinnings and coppicing) approved under relevant Commonwealth, State or Territory planning and approval processes;
 - (b) it must be biomass from a plantation that is managed in accordance with:
 - (i) a code of practice approved for a State under regulation 4B of the [Export Control \(Unprocessed Wood\) Regulations¹](#); or
 - (ii) if a code of practice has not been approved for a State as required under subparagraph (i), Australian Standard AS 4708—2007—*The Australian Forestry Standard*;
 - (c) it must be taken from land that was not cleared of native vegetation after 31 December 1989 to establish the plantation.
- (2) For section 17 of the Act, biomass from a native forest is not an energy crop.

Management and regulation of timber production

Access to forest resources is subject to planning approval and review. Likewise harvest operations must comply with relevant laws and be given regulatory approval. Power station operators should maintain good business practices and seek information to assure themselves that the plantation is managed in accordance with a complying forest management plan and that harvesting is approved by all relevant authorities and carried out by appropriately qualified and licenced operators.

Where a native species plantation has not been actively managed and the plantation left unattended for an extended period of time it may become ineligible as an energy crop.

More information about the [codes of practice²](#) can be found on the Department of Agriculture website.

¹ www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2013G00832

² www.agriculture.gov.au/forestry/australias-forests/plantation-farm-forestry/principles

Instructions for completing this form

Please read each part of this form carefully, fully answer all the questions, sign where indicated, and attach the required documentation.

Pen colours	Please use a black or blue pen to write on the form.
Check boxes	Mark boxes like this <input type="checkbox"/> with a ✓ or ✗ . When an instruction asks you to 'tick' the box, you can still use either ✓ or ✗ .
Go to	Where you see an instruction like this - <input type="checkbox"/> Go to question 5 - mark the relevant box with a ✓ or ✗ and then skip to the question number shown. You do not need to answer the question(s) in between. Where an instruction has a black double arrow (▶▶), go to the next indicated part/section. Where an instruction has a black single arrow (▶), go to the next question. Where an instruction has a black single arrow pointing down (▼), fill in the field(s) directly below.
Mandatory questions	If all fields in a question are mandatory and must be completed, (required) is added to the end of the question label text. If a field in a question is mandatory only IF a condition is met, (required if any) is added to the end of the question label text.
▶	This symbol indicates an instruction on what to do next.
①	This symbol indicates additional useful guidance to filling in the adjacent field or section.
📄	This symbol advises that more than one entry may be required for the section and therefore you may need to photocopy or print the section or fill in a duplicate section.
📎	This symbol advises that additional documentation to support a claim may need to be attached to the application.
Duplex printing	This form is designed to be duplex printed to save on paper. All new sections start on the right-hand side of a page spread.

Help filling in this form

Guidance for filling in this form is available on the [Clean Energy Regulator website](#).

If you require assistance or have any questions regarding this application process, please contact the Clean Energy Regulator general enquiries line on **1300 553 542** or email RETpowerstations@cer.gov.au.

Submitting this form

This form must be completed for power stations using energy crops as an eligible renewable energy source and uploaded in the REC Registry in support of claims for Large-scale Generation Certificates (LGCs).

Office use:

Energy Crops: biomass from a plantation

Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulation 9

Box A: location and land use history (compulsory for all applications)

Location where biomass from a plantation was sourced (list area, coupe name and mapping grid references)		
Common name and species of plant used in energy crop plantation		
Was the energy crop biomass sourced from a native forest?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Year in, or period over, which native vegetation was last cleared from the site		

Note: naturally occurring native vegetation includes all vegetation that is native to Australia (for example, native grasslands, native forest and regrowth native vegetation) but not existing plantations of native species or agricultural land.

Planning approval processes [Regulation 9(1)(a)]

Box B: Sourcing plantation biomass from State or privately owned plantations

Was the harvesting operation conducted with approval under all relevant Commonwealth, State or Territory planning and approval processes?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Attach copy of relevant harvesting approval		
Date harvesting approved:		
Date harvesting occurred:		

Management codes of practice [Regulation 9(1)(b)(i) and (ii)]

Box C – completing option 1 or option 2 is mandatory

Box C: Option 1		
Was the harvesting conducted in accordance with the relevant approved code of practice*	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, attach proof		

*approved code of practice means code of practice approved under Regulation 4B of the Export Control (Unprocessed Wood) regulations, in place in WA, SA, Tas, Vic, NSW and ACT.

OR

Box C: Option 2		
Was the harvesting conducted in accordance with the <i>AS4708-2007-The Australian Forestry Standard</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, attach proof		

Box D: Delivery recording sheets

Note: Separate delivery recording sheets must be completed for each different valuation period and from each plantation area covered by different valuation data. Reproduce this sheet as needed.

Name of power station where the biomass is utilised for electricity generation:		
Name of plantation area from which this biomass is sourced:		
Period of currency of valuation data:	From ____/____/____	To ____/____/____

Sellers details		Buyers details			
Date(s) and time(s) of collection from site	Name of contractor collecting biomass from harvesting site (include truck number plate)	Tonnes received at power station (net of vehicle)	Docket Number	Name of forest area where biomass is sourced:	Forest Co-ordinates (Attach aerial view with boundary marked)

Declaration

This section must be signed by the power station operator, if an individual, or by a representative of the operator on their behalf.

By signing below, the signatory

- a) declares that the information supplied in this form is true and correct and that he/she is authorised to make this application on behalf of the applicant named in the form; and
- b) acknowledges that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence and carries penalties under the *Criminal Code Act 1995*.

Full name of signatory	
Title/position	
Organisation (if applicable)	
Signature	

	Day (dd)	Month (mm)	Year (yyyy)
Signature date			

Application checklist

- ▶ Have you completed the following? Tick the box when you've completed the task beside it.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Completed all relevant questions.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attached specified documents.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Appendix A: if the power station utilises subcategory E wood waste - Biomass from a native forest.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Completed and signed the declaration.

Additional information

Protection of information

The Clean Energy Regulator is bound by the secrecy provisions in Part 3 of the *Clean Energy Regulator Act 2011* and by the *Privacy Act 1988*.

Privacy statement

'Personal information', as defined in the *Privacy Act 1988*, means any information from which a person's identity is apparent or can be reasonably ascertained.

Personal information collected in relation to this application will be used for the purpose of assessing the application, auditing compliance, enforcement of relevant laws and regulations and for related purposes. The collection of personal information is authorised by the *Clean Energy Act 2011*.

Disclosure of information

The Clean Energy Regulator and authorised staff are only able to disclose information relating to the affairs of a person (including personal information) collected in relation to this application in accordance with the *Clean Energy Regulator Act 2011* or as otherwise required by law.

Part 3 of the *Clean Energy Regulator Act 2011* prevents disclosure of relevant information except in circumstances set out in that Part. Those circumstances include:

- disclosure for the purposes of a climate change law
- disclosure to the Minister
- disclosure of summaries or statistics if those summaries or statistics are not likely to enable the identification of a person
- disclosure to certain bodies where the Chair of the Clean Energy Regulator is satisfied that disclosure will assist those bodies in the performance of their functions or powers, including the Australian Securities and Investment Commission, and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, and
- disclosure for the purposes of enforcement of the criminal law, enforcement of a law imposing a pecuniary penalty or for protection of the public revenue, if the Chair of the Clean Energy Regulator is satisfied that disclosure is reasonably necessary for such purpose.

Accessibility disclaimer

The Clean Energy Regulator has worked to ensure that this document is accessible but please contact us to obtain an alternative version if you are having difficulty or you have specific accessibility needs. Please call **1300 553 542** or email the name of the form and your needs to enquiries@cleanenergyregulator.gov.au.

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