

Green Gas Support Scheme Launch Stakeholder Event



Ofgem & BEIS
29 November 2021

14:00 - 14:05 - Welcome and introductions (Louise Whatham)

14:05 – 14:10 – Opening forewords from BEIS (Lord Callanan) and Ofgem (Philippa Pickford)

14:10 – 14:20 – Consultation Response (Andrew Muir)

14:20– 14:30 – Guidance Overview (Matthew Hall)

14:30 – 14:40 – Application Process and Eligibility (Charlotte Baker)

14:40 – 14:55 – Online Portal Demonstration (Liezl de Wouters d'Oplinter)

14:50 – 15:15 Q&A and Closing Comments





15 responses received

Stakeholders included:

- biomethane producers
- gas suppliers
- consultancies
- industry and trade associations

The decision document provides:

- a summary of stakeholder views
- Ofgem's response to feedback received
- an outline of our proposed administrative approach
- clarification on policies which are fixed in the regulations set by BEIS

Eligibility and Application Process

Feedback Received

Broad agreement on the tariff guarantee process

It was recognised that it was helpful to have a similar process to NDRHI

Request for shorter application reviews timescales

Increased certainty of timescales

Stage 1 evidence requirements: too much detailed required

Stage 1 evidence requirements weren't always specific enough increasing risk of not commissioning

Ofgem's Decision

At this time, we're not committing to a specific review timescale due to variation between applications submitted

We will balance robust checks with review timescales

Eligibility and Application Process

Feedback Received

Streamlining of stage 3 application evidence requirements

Definitive list of requirements and where there is flexibility in what we can accept

Clarifying areas where plant equipment can be re-used

Budget publication frequency increased

Ofgem's Decision

Network Entry Agreements can be used to demonstrate that certain components have been commissioned at stage 3

Fully constrained the definition of Equipment Used to Produce Biomethane

Other areas left as indicative lists due to variations between installations

Equipment used to produce Biomethane must not have been previously used for the purposes set out in the regulations

Other equipment can be re-used, re-purposed, shared

Other Points Raised

Feedback Received

Periodic data and payments:

- Generally supportive of approach, similar to RHI
- Timescale concerns
- Obtaining data directly from Xoserve

FMS

- A register of pre-approved common feedstocks

Ofgem's Decision

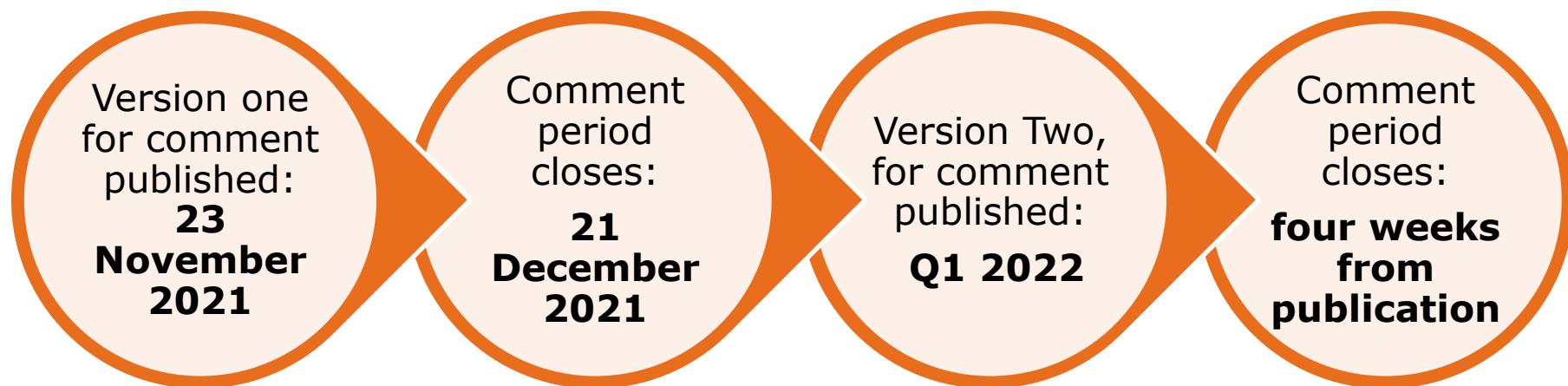
Periodic data and payments:

- We need to balance the robustness of checks with the review time
- Xoserve doesn't capture all the data required we require direct participant submissions

FMS

- Ofgem will not offer pre-approval for common feedstocks
- Looking at improvements to FMS questionnaire

Green Gas Support Scheme guidance: schedule



Purpose of Guidance

Provide
guidance on
our
administrative
approach

Provide
details of
operational
processes

To explain the
Regulations
clearly

Help
prospective
applicants
prepare to
apply

Remember: our guidance does not include any legal or technical advice.

Participants should seek their own, independent advice if required.

1. Is the draft guidance easy to read and understand?

2. Is it user-friendly?

3. Are there any sections which are ambiguous?

4. Are there any sections which could be better explained?

Send your feedback to:
Future.HeatPolicy@ofgem.gov.uk



Guidance

Draft Green Gas Support Scheme Guidance – for comment

Publication date:	18 November 2021	Contact:	Matthew Hall, Policy Manager Andrew Muir, Policy Manager
Team:	Policy, Delivery & Schemes	Email:	Future.HeatPolicy@ofgem.gov.uk

This guidance sets out Ofgem's procedures for administering the Green Gas Support Scheme (GGSS) under the Green Gas Support Scheme Regulations 2021. The GGSS is designed to support the deployment of new anaerobic digestion (AD) biomethane plants to increase the proportion of green gas in the gas grid. Support will be provided to registered biomethane producers based on the volume of eligible biomethane, produced from AD, that they inject into the gas grid.

This guidance provides information on how to apply to the scheme, the tariff rates that will apply, ongoing obligations on participants, and how to submit periodic data and receive payments. It also sets out the scheme's audit regime and compliance processes, along with other aspects of Ofgem's administration.

This guidance is for biomethane producers wishing to apply to the scheme, and for participants who are already registered on scheme. Ofgem's administration of the associated Green Gas Levy (GGL) is covered in a separate guidance document¹.

¹ <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications/green-gas-levy-guidance-comment-0>



Background

A tariff guarantee allows applicants to the Non-Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) to secure a tariff rate before their installation is

2. Extension of deadlines to commission (and inject in the case of biomethane) and submit a full accreditation application up to 31 March 2022 can be



Sustainability Self-Reporting Guidance (version 2)



Guidance Volume 2: Ongoing obligations and compliance



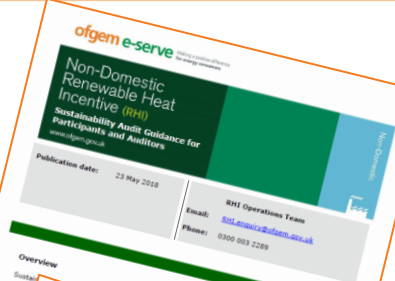
Guidance Volume 1: Eligibility and how to apply

Overview

This guidance sets out Ofgem's procedures for administering the Non-Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) under the Renewable Heat Incentive Regulations 2016 (as amended). The guidance is provided in two volumes. This document is Volume 1 and explains eligibility for the RHI and how those wishing to join the scheme can become accredited or registered.

Volume 2 describes the ongoing requirements for RHI participants, information on how periodic support payments are calculated and paid, and our compliance and enforcement powers.

This is a revised guidance for the Non-Domestic RHI and supersedes the version published on 30 March 2020. It reflects the legislative amendments made to the Non-Domestic RHI Regulations as of 31 March 2021.



Publication date: 23 May 2020

RHI Operations Team
Email: RHI.Operations@ofgem.gov.uk
Phone: 0300 003 2289

Overview

This document provides an overview of the RHI scheme and the requirements for participants and auditors. It also provides guidance on the audit process and the role of auditors.



Easy guide to metering requirements

An overview for applicants and installers for installations classified as 'standard' or 'multiple'

This document is designed to give an overview of the metering requirements for the Non-Domestic RHI for participants applying to the scheme on or after 15 July 2019. You should also read the 'Non-Domestic RHI: A guide to the different categories of installations' document on www.ofgem.gov.uk/rhi for more information.



Guidance: Fuel Measurement and Sampling (FMS) (version 2.3)

Publication date: 31 March 2021

Contact: RHI Operations Team
Tel: 0300 003 2289
Email: RHI.Operations@ofgem.gov.uk

Overview

This document provides applicants and participants using biomass and biogas, and producing biomethane for injection with information on the fuel measurement and sampling (FMS) procedures necessary to determine the renewable output eligible for RHI periodic support payments.

It also provides guidance to participants who are self-reporting for the purpose of demonstrating compliance with the sustainability requirements that came into force on 3 October 2015.

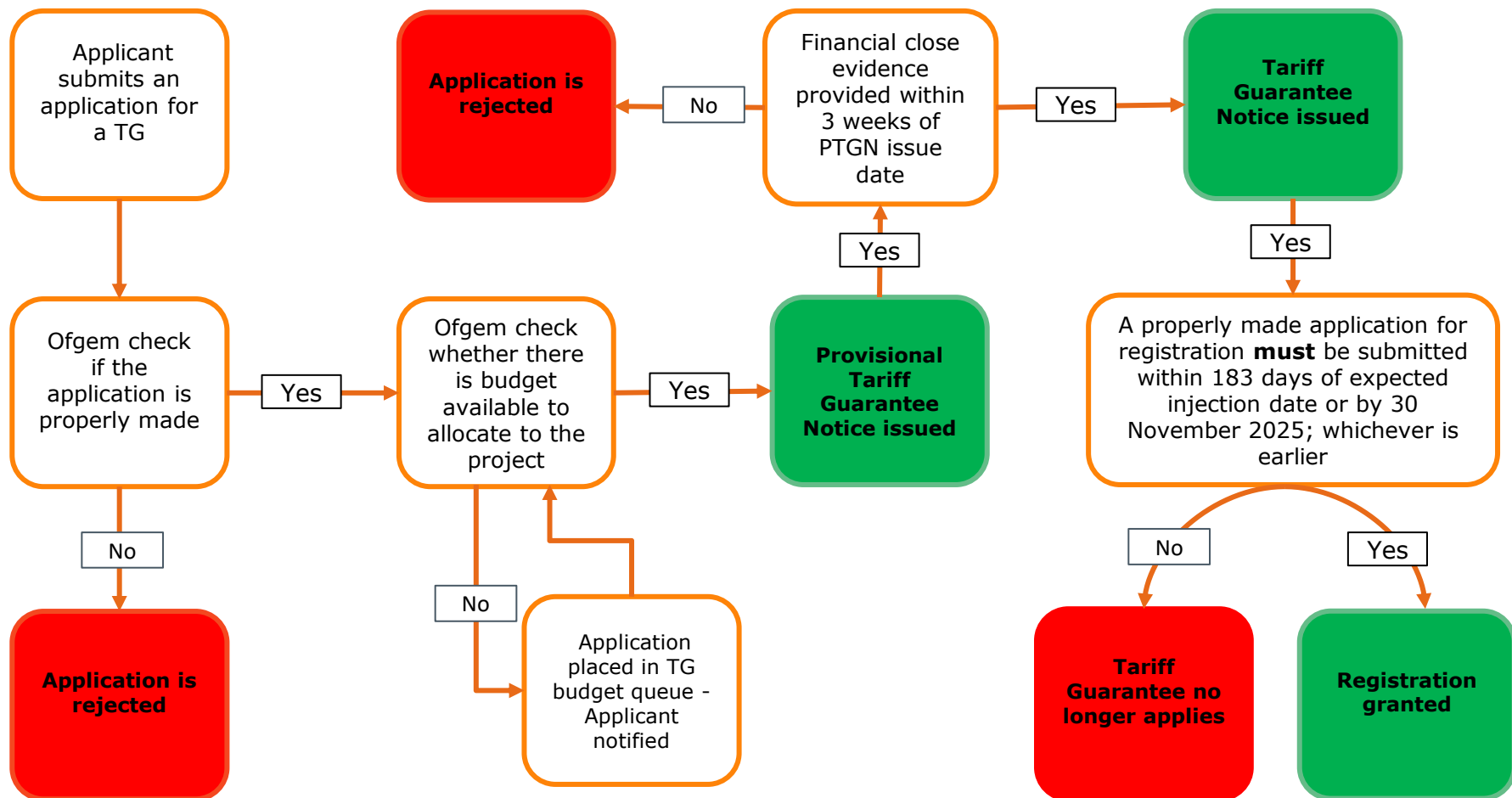
All guidance issued will be contained within a single guidance document.

Version One:

- Key concepts
- **How to apply**
- **Eligibility**
- **Fuelling and sustainability**
- **Summary of data submission**
- Summary of ongoing obligations
- Feedstock requirements
- Interaction with RTFO
- Audit and Compliance

Version Two:

- All chapters from version one, plus
- Periodic data and payments
- Making changes to your equipment
- Account changes
- Change of registered producer
- Glossary of terms



A person may not make an application for a GGSS tariff guarantee if:

Expected injection date is
after 30 November 2025

Equipment has been used
for the purpose of
registration under the
Non Domestic Renewable
Heat Incentive scheme
("NDRHI")

A NDRHI Tariff Guarantee
application was
withdrawn after the GGSS
regulations come into
force

A participant has used the
equipment to produce
biomethane and has
withdrawn from the GGSS
scheme

Equipment has been used
to produce biogas or
biomethane, or both,
before GGSS regulations
come into force

Stage 1: 'A properly made application' Biomethane



Biomethane
injection date



Maximum initial
capacity



Location of biogas
installation and
injection point



Evidence of a
connection
agreement



Applicant's
name and
business
address



Volume of
eligible
biomethane
injection



Planning
evidence



Any further
information
required by
Ofgem

No amendments

- ❑ Once a TG application has been made, it cannot be amended unless the changes are authorised by Ofgem.

Commission and injection date

- ❑ Expected injection date must be on/before 30 November 2025 or within 183 days of your expected injection date; whichever is earlier.

Planning evidence

- ❑ Where planning permission is required for any of the equipment used to produce biogas or biomethane, evidence must be in the form of a decision letter which confirms that planning permission has been granted.
- ❑ Where planning permission is not required, the following evidence must be provided: a Lawful Development Certificate or written correspondence from the planning authority that planning is not required or a declaration as to why planning permission is not required.



Signed documentation

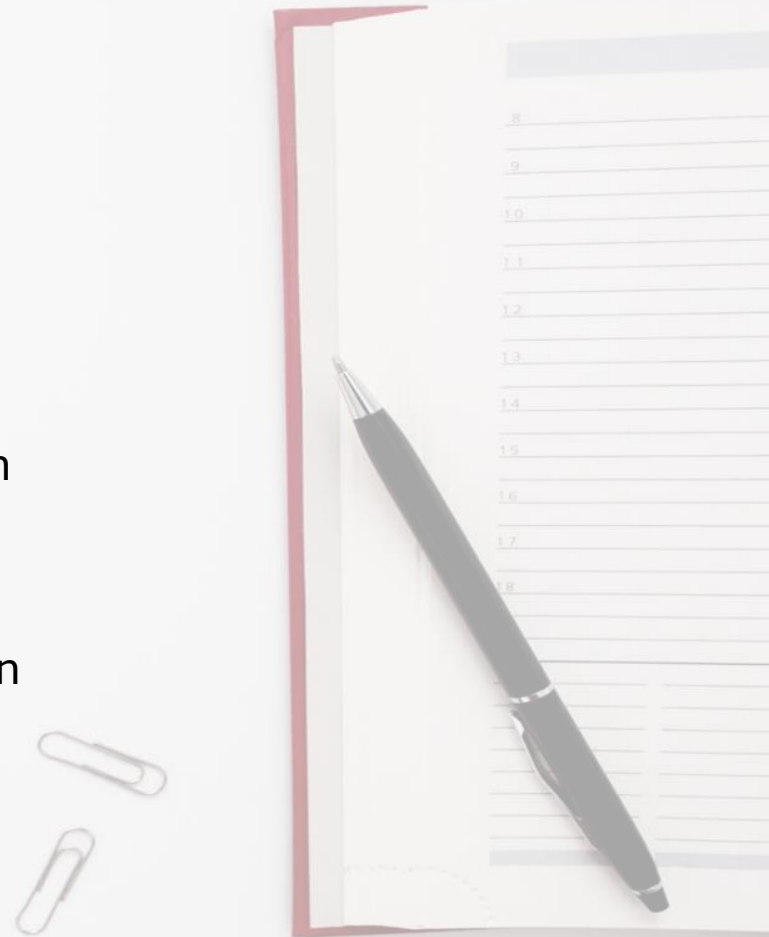
- ❑ Connection agreements must be signed by both parties. Where contracts are dependent on payments being made, we may request to see evidence that payment has been made

Ensure all figures are validated

- ❑ This includes the capacity of biomethane injection

Don't forget your Letter of Authorisation

- ❑ This should be uploaded to the application and can be downloaded from our website



Stage 2: Evidencing Financial Close

“Financial close” means the date on which the applicant has entered into all financing agreements in relation to all the funding required for the construction of the proposed plant, or the production and injection of biomethane. This evidence must be provided within 3 weeks of the PTGN issue date.

Include a report verifying evidence by an independent auditor who is not a connected person

Include the evidence that the auditor has reviewed

Show sufficient funds for completing construction

Show that funds are formally committed to the project

Be signed by both parties where it is an agreement

Estimated project costs

Show photos or invoices of development where physical development is established

Loan (facility) agreements, loan offers, capital investment, investment bank docs, bank statements

Agreements in place with contractors showing project is on track to commission

Land ownership or lease agreements

Notification of project sponsors - including their experience and agreements entered into

Project, EPC, O&M and fuel supply agreements

Don't miss the deadlines

- ☐ Evidence of financial close must be submitted within 3 weeks of the PTGN issue date

Signed documentation

- ☐ All agreements must be signed by both parties

Getting the organisational structure right

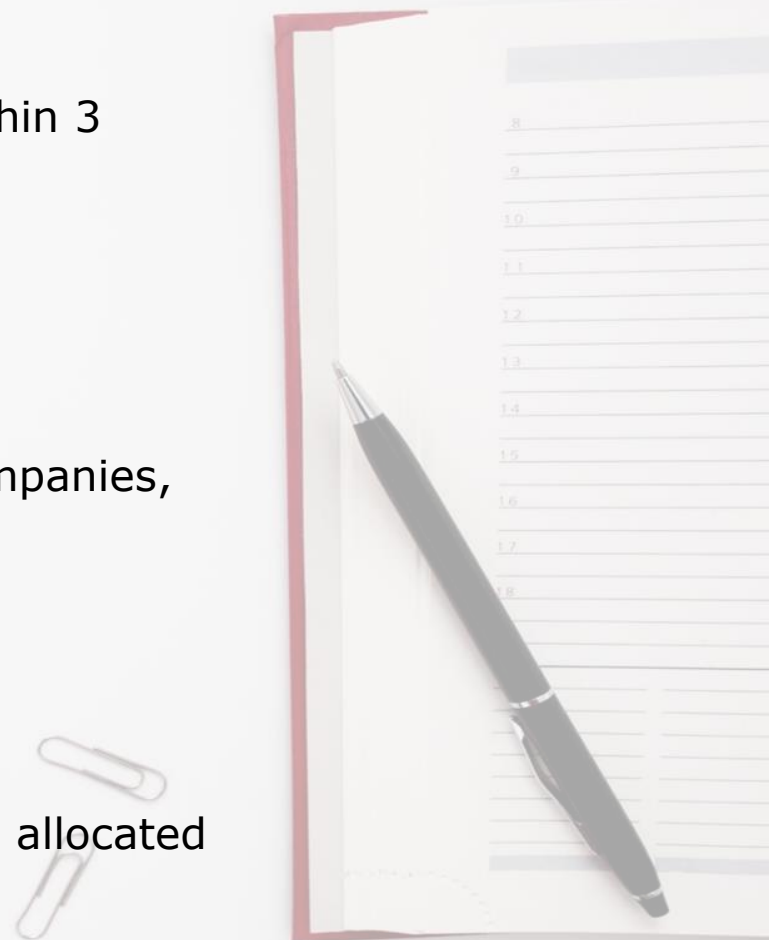
- ☐ Give clear details on project structure, parent companies, SPVs, loan providers, investors etc.

Format for audit report

- ☐ Format for the audit report must be ISAE 3000

Allocation of funds

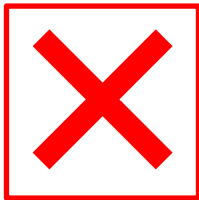
- ☐ There is limited GGSS budget – funds will only be allocated to projects that have met the requirements



Following Ofgem's review:



- If your PTGN and TG application is granted, you will receive confirmation by email
- We may attach conditions to the TG application



- If your PTGN or TG application is rejected, you will be notified by email
- Ofgem will confirm the reason for rejection.

If granted, applicants will have **until 30 November 2025 or 182 days after their expected injection date (whichever is earlier)** to:

- **Commission** their plant and begin to inject biomethane
- **Submit** a properly made application for registration

Ofgem may revoke a Tariff Guarantee application if it considers -

- There has been a material change in circumstances such that, had the TG application been made after the change, it would have been rejected
- The applicant fails to comply with conditions imposed in accordance with the issued Tariff Guarantee Notice
- That the information on which the decision to grant the Tariff guarantee was based was incorrect in a material particular; or
- That the production and injection of biomethane is materially different from the production and injection of biomethane which was proposed under the original application.

Material differences include:

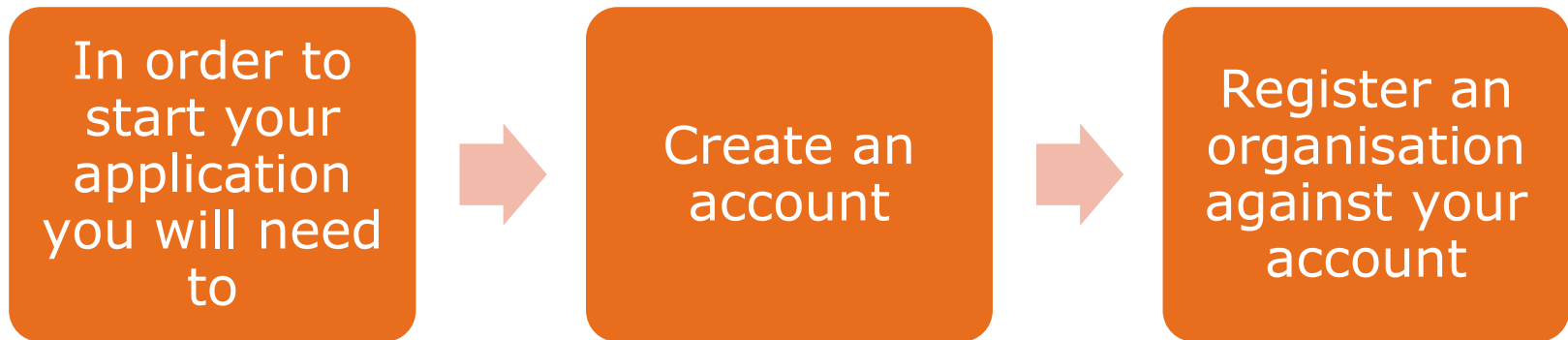
The location of the place where biomethane is injected

The maximum initial capacity of biomethane

The source of energy and technology or design of the plant

The maximum initial capacity is at least 10% greater or smaller than the capacity proposed against the original application

Access to the portal from the Ofgem website



Each stage of the process will provide you with information on what you need to complete it

You will receive a submission email notification after adding your organisation and completing stage 1

You will only be able to complete stage 2 once your stage 1 has been approved by Ofgem

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for energy consumers

Green Gas Support Scheme
[Sign in](#)

BETA 1.0.0 This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

Apply for financial support to inject biomethane into the gas grid

The Green Gas Support Scheme (GGSS) provides financial incentives for eligible anaerobic digestion biomethane installations to increase the proportion of green gas in the gas grid.

Once registered on the GGSS, eligible biomethane producers can claim payments for producing biomethane using anaerobic digestion and injecting it into the gas grid.

These payments are:

- based on the volume of eligible biomethane you inject into the gas grid
- made quarterly over 15 years

Tariff guarantee process

Tariff guarantees will be a compulsory stage of applying to the GGSS. Tariff guarantees will allow prospective participants to apply to secure a fixed tariff rate before their installation is commissioned and fully registered onto the scheme. Read more about the [tariff guarantee process](#).

Before you apply

Before you can start your application, you'll need to:

- read our guidance on [Before you create an account](#)
- [create your account](#)
- [register your organisation](#)

Once you've created your account and registered your organisation, there are 3 stages to the application process. You can read what you'll need to do for each stage:

- [apply for stage 1](#)
- [apply for stage 2](#)
- [apply for stage 3](#)

Part of

[Green Gas Support Scheme](#)

[Show all](#)

1

Prepare to apply

Show

2

Check eligibility

Show

3

Create an account

Hide

[Before you create an account](#)
[Create an account](#)

4

Apply for the Green Gas Support Scheme

Hide

[Apply for the Green Gas Support Scheme](#)
 Ofgem will carry out checks to verify that information provided is accurate.

On the landing page you will be able to read information on the scheme, how to apply and what is required for the different stages

You can use the eligibility checker (right side nr 2) to check if you should apply to the scheme

You can create an account by clicking 'Create an account' under section 3 on the right or by clicking create an account at the bottom of the landing page

When creating your account you will need to provide your email address and click 'send verification code'

You will receive an email from Microsoft with a 6 digit code

You will then have to provide your name and surname to proceed

You will then be prompted to enter a password

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Green Gas Support Scheme

Create an account

Verification is necessary. Please click Send button.


Email address

Send verification code

First name

Last name

Continue

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Green Gas Support Scheme

Sign in to your Green Gas Support Scheme account

Username

Your username is your email address

Password



[Create an account](#)

[Sign in](#)

Problems signing in

[Forgot your password?](#)

You will need to sign-in to access your account after account creation

You can find the sign-in button in the top right corner


Use your email address and the password you created


If you forget your password, you can reset it by clicking the 'forgot your password' link

Whenever you
are signed in
you will be
taken to your
dashboard

Here you will
be able to add
an organisation
or see
organisations
you have
already added

You will need
to add an
organisation to
start an
application



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for energy consumers

Green Gas Support Scheme

Hello Jeff Jones!
[My dashboard](#) [Sign out](#)

BETA **1.0.0** This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

[< Back](#)

Jeff Jones

Your organisations	Number of installations
BIOMETHANE LIMITED	1

[Add another organisation](#)

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BETA 1.0.0 This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

[< Back](#)

Register an organisation

Before you start registering your organisation, read [before you create an account](#).

You'll need to:

- give us your company registration number (if you have one)
- assign an authorised signatory - they'll be the person responsible for taking part in the scheme on behalf of their organisation
- give us a letter of authorisation from the owner of the organisation

! The authorised signatory cannot be a consultant making the application on behalf of the applicant.

[Continue](#)

[< Back](#)

Give us your details

As the authorised signatory, you'll have legal responsibility for the account and will be asked to sign declarations.

We'll ask you for:

- your date of birth
- your telephone number
- a letter of authorisation - this is a letter confirming you have the authority to open and use an account for the organisation to submit an application
- photo identification - like a scan of the photo page of your passport or driving licence
- proof of your home address - like a council tax or utility bill (dated within the last 3 months)

For information on how long we'll keep your data, read our [privacy policy](#) ([opens in a new tab](#)).

[Continue](#)

To add your organisation you will need to provide:

1. Company information
2. Personal information as the authorised signatory

You can only upload PDF, JPG, PNG, BMP, TIF, XLS or XLSX files. No file can be larger than 5MB

Once you have completed the organisation registration, you will not be able to edit the information



BIOMETHANE LIMITED

Installation

Start new application >

Installation

Status

[JJ AD BIO](#)

STAGE ONE SUBMITTED

Once you have
submitted your
organisation
you can start a
new application
stage 1

For stage 1 you must complete all 3 sections before you can submit

You can complete the sections in any order you like

You can save and continue at any point to return to your application at a later stage



[Back to your dashboard](#)

Green Gas Support Scheme application

1. Tell us your plans for producing biomethane

Tell us about your site	NOT STARTED
Planning permission	NOT STARTED
Production details	NOT STARTED

You cannot submit until you have completed all the tasks in this section.

[Accept and send](#)

Once your application is submitted, you will receive an email notification confirming your submission

If you need to query your application, please quote the reference number you receive with your application submission email

We will be in touch to ask for more information or to confirm approval of your stage 1 application

Once you have completed and submitted an application stage, you will not be able to edit it

You can also view the status of your application on your dashboard

[< Back to your dashboard](#)

Green Gas Support Scheme application

1. Tell us your plans for producing biomethane

Tell us about your site

SUBMITTED

Planning permission

SUBMITTED

Production details

SUBMITTED

2. Give us evidence of your project finances

[ISAE 3000 audit document](#)

NOT STARTED

[Additional supporting evidence](#)

NOT STARTED

You cannot submit until you've completed all the tasks in this section.

Accept and send

You will only be able to complete your stage 2 submission once your stage 1 submission has been approved

Installation

Start new application >

Installation

Status

[JJ AD BIO](#)

STAGE ONE APPROVED

Any questions?



1. What is the position on changing from the RHI to the GGSS if the plant hasn't delivered any gas into the network?
2. Will the GGSS apply to plant expansions in the future or just new builds?
3. At what stage in the application can operators start commissioning their plants (especially further towards the 2025 deadline) without it impacting their "new" plant status.
4. Can Ofgem please lay out the criteria that Ofgem will use to determine whether a plant has been commissioned?
5. Can existing AD plants be eligible for GGSS if they are looking to expand? If not, what constitutes a 'new' AD plant?



To be eligible, the expected injection date must be **on or before 30 November 2025**



The Green Gas Support Scheme opens to new applications at **9am on 30 November 2021**



Visit our [Green Gas Support Scheme and Green Gas Levy page](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#)



Our core purpose is to ensure that all consumers can get good value and service from the energy market. In support of this we favour market solutions where practical, incentive regulation for monopolies and an approach that seeks to enable innovation and beneficial change whilst protecting consumers.

We will ensure that Ofgem will operate as an efficient organisation, driven by skilled and empowered staff, that will act quickly, predictably and effectively in the consumer interest, based on independent and transparent insight into consumers' experiences and the operation of energy systems and markets.