



BSL Update Wood Heat Forum

22/06/2022

Amendment to RHI regs January 2021

“SCHEDULE 4A

Regulation 47

Solid biomass which is wood: Criteria for woodfuel quality

1. This Schedule applies to solid biomass (excluding solid biomass contained in waste) which—
 - (a) is woodfuel; and
 - (b) is used to generate heat in an accredited RHI installation.
2. All wood pellets must meet the ENplus A1 standard(1) or an equivalent standard.
3. All other woodfuel must meet fuel quality standard EN 15234-1: 2011(2), ISO 9001: 2015(3) or EN ISO 17225-4: 2014(4) or an equivalent standard.
4. All woodfuel must be certified by the Woodsure Certification Scheme(5) or an equivalent certification scheme as meeting the standard in paragraph 2 or 3.
5. The certification scheme must provide assurance of the supply chain of the woodfuel.
6. In this Schedule, “woodfuel” means—
 - (a) woodchip;
 - (b) logs;
 - (c) wood pellets; and
 - (d) wood briquettes,

regardless of whether the wood will undergo any other process before burning.”.

Standards and schemes

What is a fuel standard?

A fuel standard is developed by industry and government with input from third party sector organisations. Fuel Standards are produced so that appliances can be developed and tested with standardised fuels to ensure it works and that it meets emissions when the standardised fuel is burned.

A fuel standard sets out key physical and chemical characteristics such as moisture content, size and raw materials.

What is a fuel quality certification scheme?

A fuel quality certification scheme enables businesses and organisations to be independently audited as a means of formally demonstrating that they comply with the fuel quality standard by having a quality management system in place.

Challenges – Meeting fuel quality



Volume of New applications



Bigger Woodsure applications which take longer to progress



Genuine supplier oversights and late acknowledgment of Fuel Quality requirement in the legislation



Interpretation of the Quality Requirements in the legislation



Waste Fuels Clarifications from Ofgem approved late March



'Self -Reporters' to Ofgem



What did BSLAdmin do?

1. We established the risks and continued due diligence throughout
2. We issued 18 planned communications across multiple platforms including; letter, email, bulletins, newsletters, phone text message and websites.
3. We worked to ensure that every BSL Supplier was given fair and reasonable opportunity to comply
4. The helpdesk answered approx. 6000 calls and 4000 emails (Jan to May) To support BSL, Woodsure mobilised to assess and approve approx. 3000 Fuel Quality Applications.
5. We worked hard to prioritise to lessen the impact on end users.

Operational Challenges

Known Risks

Lack of early engagement – pre legal requirement 'people' are habitually reluctant to allocate resource and money

End user impact – being alive to the fact that we wanted everyone to have access to approved fuel to continue with normal operations

Managing the response from stakeholder and planned BSL communications

Internal Challenges

Short term impact on attention given to improvement plans and novation

COVID outbreak reducing resource by 50% over 4 weeks in April

Major IT outage – entered disaster recovery to recover – 5 days

Separating processes and resource between Woodsure and BSL in approving and reconciling 4000 FQ applications in a short time frame with compromising on compliance

Outbound Communications



January 24th -Physical Letter

January 26th - Email same as Letter

February 8th - Email Self Supplier & Commercial Emails

February 10th – New Supplier Fuel Quality FAQs

February 15th – BSL Newsletter including Fuel Quality

March 3rd – Waste Wood Guidelines

March 10th - Self Supplier & Commercial Emails

March 22nd - Self Supplier, Commercial, Pellet, Waste & All other Fuels Emails

March 25th – Suspension from BSL 1 week

March 28th – Fuel Quality Acknowledgement

March 31st – Extension of Administration

May 10th – Suspension from BSL (x2 Renewables Child, Verdo, Non-Payers)

May 17th – Fuel Quality Reminder

May 20th – Direct Mailer – Act Now (x2 SS and C Log & Chip)

May 24th – Fuel Quality – 1 week left

May 30th – Fuel Quality – 1 Day left

May 31st – Fuel Quality – Final Day

May 31st – Risk of Removal from BSL

Status update – fuels registered on BSL

1st April **7,627** fuels live on BSL

2,187 demonstrating fuel quality **22%**

1st June **6,367** fuels live on the BSL.

100% have demonstrated both sustainability criteria and fuel quality criteria

**Data accurate as of 15/06/2022*

Removals

A breakdown Fuels removed from BSL in the last Quarters

Fuels Removed for the following Reasons:

No Fuel Quality Demonstrated **702**

Non-Payment **412**

No Longer Trading **53**

Other **43**

Total **1210**

**Data accurate as of 15/06/2022*

Next Steps

