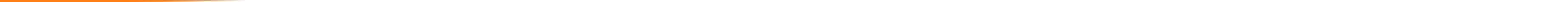


Woodsure - Standards Update

Wood Heat Conference 2024

Helen Bentley-Fox -
Director





- 



Who are we?

Woodsure is the UK's only woodfuel quality assurance scheme.

Based in Gloucestershire, Woodsure also has its own independent UKAS Accredited laboratory.

Part of Cleaner Safer Group.

Purpose: Working together for a cleaner, safer and more sustainable environment.

About Helen:

- Woodsure Director
- Set up Woodsure Scheme in 2011
- Chair BSI Technical Committee Solid Biofuels

What is a standard?

- An agreed way of doing something.
- Making a product, managing a process (ISO9001, ISO15234), delivering a service or defining a product (ISO17225)
- Distilled wisdom of experts - manufacturers, sellers, buyers, customers, trade associations, users or regulators.
- Drive innovation, increase productivity, easier, safer and healthier.

Proving you meet a standard

Standard

- Sets out the quality or levels required by a particular product
- ISO 17225 – product classification
- ISO 15234 / ISO 9001 – methodology to produce that product consistently

Management systems

- Internal management systems with product flow from raw materials to end product
- Identifies critical control points

Independent verification

- External certification body and/or auditor assessment of compliance
- Certification of the business to operate within the scheme rules
- Certification bodies accredited by UKAS

Industry regulation and standards

- Air quality and wood fuel: Particulates
- Government policy, including
 - Environment Improvement Plan 2023
 - Biomass Strategy 2023
- Regulations
 - RHI 2018 Regulation 47 including amendments
 - The Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020

Domestic burning and legislation



The Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020
Scotland & Wales own plans: Cleaner Air for Scotland 2 & Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Bill



RHI Regulation 2018: fuel meets standards required by legislation

Sustainability requirements: Self Report to Ofgem or use a registered BSL fuel

- Greenhouse gas emissions – introduced 2014
- Land criteria – introduced 2018
- Since April 2022 RHI fuel quality Regulation 47 & Schedule 4A.





Land Criteria

Acronyms in
use

- Based on [UK Timber Procurement Policy](#) (UKTPP)
- [TSHE](#) – produced by DECC (now [DESNZ](#)) to assist compliance with [DRHI](#), [NDRHI](#) & [RO](#) regulations
- [WAN2](#) & other guidance produced by [CPET](#)

[DEFRA](#) manages the UKTPP and has requested [EFECA](#) to review it early 2025... Will TSHE align?

Legality

- [EUDR](#) and [UKTR](#) divergence – UK become a displacement market for illegal timber?
- Could the UK drop in international ratings & no longer be considered a low-risk country?

Relevant Certification for Biomass Fuels

Land criteria

- FSC Scheme
- PEFC Scheme
- SBP Scheme

RHI sustainability

- BSL Scheme

Fuel quality

- Woodsure Scheme
- ENplus® Scheme

All must have a valid claim!



Woodsure & Ready to Burn Stats

Certified suppliers fuel quality

Woodsure only: 2,780

Woodsure and Ready to Burn: 207

Ready to Burn only: 916

2.5% increase in registrants

Note: includes Ofgem self reporters

End Aug 2024



Biomass Suppliers List



A list of fuels to demonstrate compliance with Regulation 47.

- 5,485 fuels (6,132 in 2023)
- 3,601 suppliers (3,780 in 2023)

Includes:

- ☐ Self suppliers, producers & traders.
- ☐ Woody biomass: Virgin & waste.
- ☐ Forms: Chip, pellet, firewood and briquette.

Does **not** include Ofgem Self Reporters

End Aug 2024



Bringing Woodfuel Standards up to date

Önorm M7133 (chip only) – withdrawn 2013

EN 14961 series – withdrawn 2014

ISO 17225 series - current versions 2021-3

Note: Lab can test Önorm or EN14961 or withdrawn versions of ISO 17225 but outside of Woodsure scheme



Quality is improving

90% in 2024

86% in 2022



Biomass Suppliers List & RHI

Requirements

- GHG
- Land criteria
- Fuel quality

Based on RED I

- RHI closed

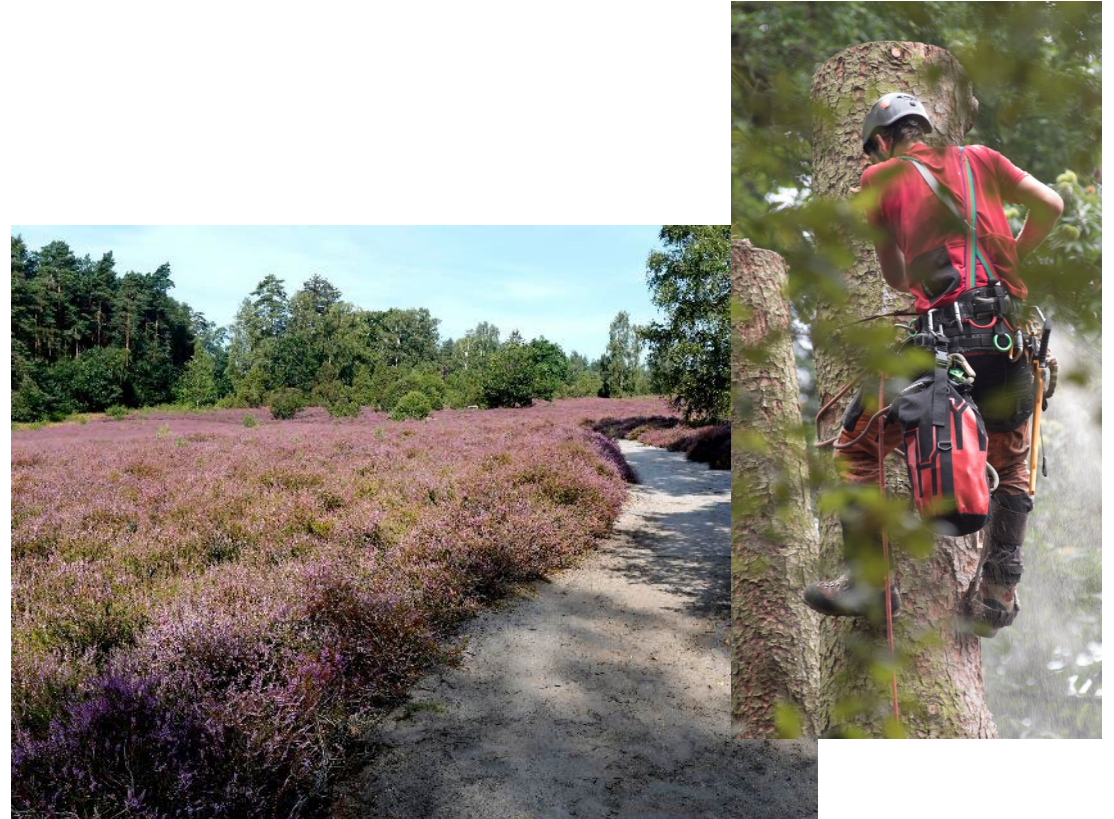
Woodsure / ENplus®

- fuel classification / specification
- quality management

Diverging standards?

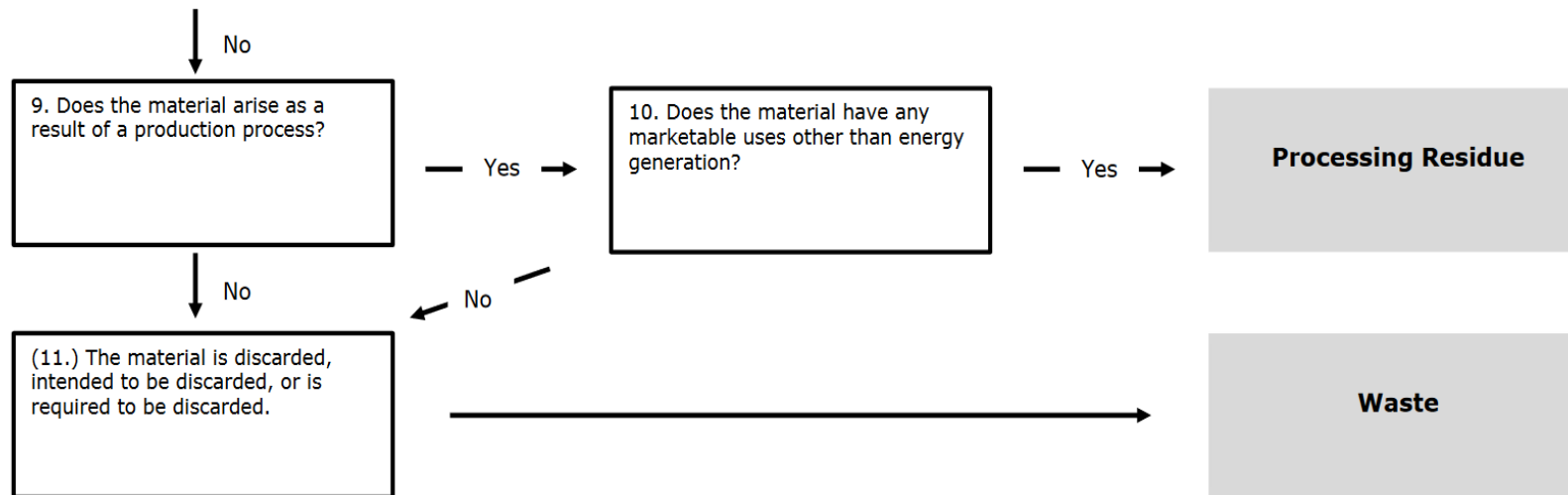
BSL Exempt fuels

- Timber from the following are deemed to have met the land criteria and GHG emissions but still require fuel quality:
 - Habitat management/restoration
 - Arboricultural arisings
- Waste wood: exempt from all criteria but still need to be listed by BSL



Woodsure processing residues assessment – quick guide

Ofgem guidance flow diagram identifies what is a waste wood but does not highlight the two subcategories of processing residues.



Clean & untreated
can be certified



Possible
contamination – fuel test



Clearly not clean
& untreated –
cannot be
certified by
Woodsure



[https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/sites/default/files/docs/2016/06/renewables obligation - fuel classification flow diagram.pdf](https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/sites/default/files/docs/2016/06/renewables_obligation_-_fuel_classification_flow_diagram.pdf)

Summary

- Cleaner air for all
- Woodsure provides independent assurance that wood fuels meet the standards
- Woodsure takes a collaborative approach
- Woodsure listens to the industry and work with them to enable them to demonstrate that they can comply with the regulations and meet the standards
- Need to monitor – research, policy and legislation changes

Contact

Speaker: Helen Bentley-Fox, Woodsure Director

Email: hello@woodsurre.co.uk

Website: <https://www.woodsurre.co.uk/>

Thank you for your time!

Woodsure is part of Cleaner Safer Group:

Working together for a cleaner, safer and more sustainable environment

