

ERGaR Certificate of Origin (CoO) Scheme

Scheme Rules V1.2

05/2022

Versioning

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1.1	05/07/2021	ERGaR	editing
1.2	08/05/2022	ERGaR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification participation process • Limited liability of members of the Sanction and Control Committee • New Annex B: Introduction of scheme fees with new calculation methodology and higher cap of yearly transaction fee. • Deletion of old Annex B information Fields in a Data Package

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1 Objective and scope

- 1.1 The ERGaR CoO Scheme (hereinafter referred to as the “**Scheme**”) is organised by the European Renewable Gas Registry (ERGaR) aisbl (hereinafter referred to as the “**Operator**”).
- 1.2 The Scheme facilitates the transfer of Certificates of Origin (“**CoOs**”) between participating National Biomethane Registries (hereinafter referred to as “System Participants”), which issue CoOs or equivalent documentation for biomethane injected into the Natural Gas Network in their country of operation.
- 1.3 CoOs are transferred via Data Packages (see 2.7), which are structured according to an agreed XML data format and uploaded and downloaded from the ExtraVert Platform by System Participants.
- 1.4 CoOs are fully defined in these Scheme Rules (hereinafter referred to as the “**ERGaR Rules**”) and are electronic documents that allow gas consumers to demonstrate their use of biomethane. Other types of documents transferred via the ExtraVert Platform are outside the scope of the Scheme.
- 1.5 The ExtraVert Platform is operated by Vertogas B.V. as IT provider on behalf of the Operator. A Service Level Agreement between Vertogas and the Operator regulates all work carried out by Vertogas in connection with the ExtraVert Platform.
- 1.6 Only National Biomethane Registries that comply with the legal and technical requirements set out in the Rules may become System Participants and connect to the ExtraVert Platform.
- 1.7 The Scheme is designed to facilitate the trading of CoOs for biomethane consignments injected into the natural gas network; however, it may also be used for biomethane consignments transported by road and waterway.
- 1.8 The Rules and other Scheme documents will be in English and communication between the Operator and System Participants will be in English unless otherwise agreed.

2 Definitions

- 2.1 **Biomass Coding List:** A list maintained by the Operator which shows the biomass information that may be incorporated into a Data Package in fields 32, 33 and 34. System Participants can request that Biomass Coding, specific to the biomethane sector in their country of operation e.g., national subsidy schemes or national legal frameworks, is added to and withdrawn from the list. The Operator may also add or withdraw Biomass Coding information from the list relevant to European wide standards such as CEN - EN 16325.
- 2.2 **Certificate of Origin (CoO):** An electronic document that records information about consignments of biomethane injected into the Natural Gas Network. A CoO may be used by gas consumers to proof that the biomethane consignment described in the CoO can be set against an amount of gas that the consumer has withdrawn from the Natural Gas Network. System Participants may apply different terminology to the documents they issue at national level, such as e.g. “biomethane certificates”, “guarantees of origin” or “renewable gas guarantees of origin”. Within the Scheme, all such documents will be considered CoOs. CoOs follow the approach detailed in Article 15 of Directive (EU) 2009/28 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources, including amendments as per Directive (EU) 2015/1513 (also referred to as “**RED I**”) and Article 19 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast) (also referred to as “**RED II**”).

- 2.3 **CoO Creation:** The creating of an electronic data set containing information about consignments of biomethane that have been injected into the gas grid.
- 2.4 **CoO Transfer:** The moving of the electronic document constituting the CoO either between two different accounts within a National Biomethane Registry, or – via the ExtraVert Platform – between an account held within a sending System Participant and an account held within a receiving System Participant.
- 2.5 **CoO Withdrawal:** The removal of a CoO by a National Biomethane Registry from its registry without cancelling the CoO. The National Biomethane Registry may do this, if it believes the information in the CoO is inaccurate or the biomethane injection has been double counted, or for other specific reasons.
- 2.6 **CoO Cancelling:** Recording the final use of the Biomethane on the CoO by way of a cancellation statement in order to ensure that the CoO cannot be used again for any other purpose. The CoO is not deleted and continues to be available for auditing. A CoO that is cancelled because it has been exported via the ExtraVert Platform will be marked as “cancelled because of transfer via ERGaR CoO Scheme”.
- 2.7 **Data Package:** A single file, in XML data format, containing information about one or more CoOs that a System Participant wishes to transfer to another System Participant. The Data Packages must be uploaded to the ExtraVert Account of the sending System Participant via the ExtraVert Platform. The XML format is provided by the Operator.
- 2.8 **ERGaR aisbl (“Operator”):** An international, non-governmental, non-profit organisation established under Belgian law on 28/09/2016, with its registered seat at 1040 Brussels, Rue d’Arlon 63-65.
- 2.9 **ERGaR Rules:** The rules of the Scheme, as set out in this document.
- 2.10 **ExtraVert Account:** An electronic account on the ExtraVert Platform, where System Participants upload and download the Data Packages, which allow them to transfer CoOs.
- 2.11 **ExtraVert Platform:** A stand-alone transfer platform developed by Vertogas B.V. under the Development Agreement concluded with the Operator. Subsequently maintained and administered by Vertogas B.V. under the Service Level Agreement concluded with the Operator.
- 2.12 **National Biomethane Registry:** an organisation that operates an account-based administration system documenting the chain of custody of injected biomethane from the point of injection up to the point of withdrawal from the domestic natural gas network. For the purpose of the Scheme, the electronic documents issued by the National Biomethane Registry constitute CoOs. A National Biomethane Registry is established either by government mandate or by the voluntary cooperation of market participants and operates within a domestic market.
- 2.13 **Operator:** The Operator of the Scheme, i.e. ERGaR aisbl.
- 2.14 **Operator’s Executive Board:** The Operator’s main executive body, the members of which are elected by the members of ERGaR aisbl.
- 2.15 **Proof of Sustainability (“PoS”):** a document detailing the verification of sustainability criteria relating to biomethane consignments in accordance with the relevant EU requirements and recommendations (RED, FQD and Communication 2010/C 160/01). PoSs are issued by conformity assessment bodies (certification bodies) associated with a voluntary scheme recognised by the European Commission under the RED. If requested by an economic operator (the owner of a biomethane consignment), the sustainability characteristics of the biomethane detailed in a PoS may also be forwarded through the ExtraVert Platform, alongside the information contained in a CoO.

- 2.16 **System Participant:** A National Biomethane Registry admitted to the Scheme by decision of the Operator's Executive Board, in accordance with the ERGaR Rules.

3 Data Packages

- 3.1 Data Packages used for the transfer of CoOs between System Participants via the ExtraVert Platform, are electronic datasets in an XML format, uploaded by a System Participant via its ExtraVert Account. Every Data Package includes information and attributes relating to a specific biomethane consignment injected into the European natural gas network, as represented by one or more CoOs.
- 3.2 A Data Package serves the purpose of transferring cross-border the information contained in one or more CoOs. It provides the receiving System Participant with the information necessary to issue one or more corresponding CoOs in its registry and thereby complete a transfer of one or more CoOs.
- 3.3 The format of the Data Package allows to include information on sustainability criteria on a voluntary basis. These may be based on documents other than CoOs, such as Proof of Sustainability (PoS) documents. Such voluntary information will be added to the primary information contained in the CoOs.
- 3.4 CoOs follow the approach set out in Article 15 of Directive (EU) 2009/28 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources, including amendments as per Directive (EU) 2015/1513 (also referred to as "**RED I**") and Article 19 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast) (also referred to as "**RED II**"). CoOs therefore contain as much information as available out of the following:
- 3.4.1 Medium of energy, e.g., gas;
 - 3.4.2 Unique CoO number assigned by the System Participant;
 - 3.4.3 Installed capacity of the production unit, in which the energy to which the CoO relates was produced;
 - 3.4.4 Date when the production unit entered into operation;
 - 3.4.5 First day of production of the output to which the CoO relates;
 - 3.4.6 Last day of production of the output to which the CoO relates;
 - 3.4.7 Type of production unit, e.g., biomethane from anaerobic digestion;
 - 3.4.8 Identity of the originating producer, including the unique number assigned to that producer by the National Biomethane Registry, as well as the name of the producer;
 - 3.4.9 Identity (country and region) of the National Biomethane Registry who issued the CoO in the country of production;
 - 3.4.10 Date when the electronic issuance of the CoO in the country of production took place;
 - 3.4.11 An indication whether and to what extent the producer received investment or production support;
 - 3.4.12 The energy source (biomass processed);
 - 3.4.13 The validity period of the CoO.
- 3.5 Certain fields within the Data Package are mandatory and must be completed in order for the transfer to be valid while others are optional. This is set out in **Fehler! Verweisquelle konnte nicht gefunden werden.**
- 3.6 When a Data Package is uploaded by a sending System Participant, the CoO or CoOs detailed in the Data Package must be made unavailable by the sending System

Participant for further use until confirmation of the transfer is received from the receiving System Participant, at which point the original CoOs must be cancelled.

- 3.7 On receipt of a Data Package, a receiving System Participant will create a CoO or CoOs matching the characteristics and amount described in the Data Package. No information may be changed but attributes may be excluded if the receiving System Participant's systems and processes do not allow for them to be included.
- 3.8 When the receiving System Participant confirms that they are able to create a CoO or CoOs according to the details included in the Data Package, the sending System Participant must provide the receiving System Participant with proof of the cancellation of the original CoO or CoOs. On receipt of this proof, the receiving System Participant creates their new CoO or CoOs, which are then available to be used.
- 3.9 A Data Package may represent any energy amount of biomethane from 1 MWh upwards. Upon receipt of a Data Package, a System Participant may create either one CoO, representing all the MWh recorded in the Data Package, or several CoOs that together make up the total MWh recorded in the Data Package. The new CoO or CoOs issued by the receiving System Participant must always make up the total MWh described in the respective Data Package and cancelled by the sending System Participant and must record without any alteration the attributes of the biomethane reflected in the original CoO or CoOs.
- 3.10 A receiving System Participant is entitled to refuse to create a CoO or CoOs based on a Data Package from a sending System Participant if
 - 3.10.1 the resulting CoO or CoOs would infringe legal or governmental rules or regulations in force in one of the countries involved; or
 - 3.10.2 the Data Package is incomplete, incorrect, or invalid; or
 - 3.10.3 the receiving System Participant has any credible information about relevant fraudulent activity; or
 - 3.10.4 the receiving System Participant is not provided with proof that the relevant CoO or CoOs have been cancelled in the registry of the sending System Participant.
- 3.11 All transfers of Data Packages will be effected via the ExtraVert Platform, which also allows System Participants to add explanatory notes regarding individual Data Packages. Any email communication between System Participants relating to the upload, download, withdrawal, rejection, or acceptance of Data Packages must be systematically labelled using the Data Package's Exchange ID, in such a way as to be auditable at a later date.
- 3.12 The Data Package will state all information in English with the expectations of;
 - 3.12.1 Names and address of traders and production devices (fields 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41)
 - 3.12.2 Biomass information (fields 31, 32, 33, 35) where that information is stated in a language other than English on the Biomass Coding List published by the operator.

4 Requirements of and process for National Biomethane Registries to become System Participants

- 4.1 National Biomethane Registries may become System Participants irrespective of whether or not they are member of ERGaR aisbl.
- 4.2 National Biomethane Registries may only become System Participants, if they maintain an electronic, account-based documentation system for the registration of energy quantities of biomethane injected into the domestic gas network, allowing the

issuing of corresponding biomethane CoOs as well as the transfer of CoOs between registered account holders.

- 4.3 In order to be admitted to the Scheme, each National Biomethane Registry must, as a minimum
 - 4.3.1 maintain independence from economic operators;
 - 4.3.2 not directly or indirectly own biomethane CoOs (or other similar products) or participate in markets associated with biomethane CoOs (other than the functions defined in their foundation documents);
 - 4.3.3 carry out operations in a professional and transparent manner, adhering to the relevant laws and regulations;
 - 4.3.4 have an auditable system documenting the issuing, handling and cancelling of CoOs;
 - 4.3.5 follow appropriate auditing procedures, including conducting external audits that confirm the accuracy of their processes for issuing CoOs;
 - 4.3.6 keep any documentation (digital or otherwise) for a minimum of five years;
 - 4.3.7 accept responsibility for the preparation of all relevant information for the auditing of activities relating to their participation in the Scheme.
- 4.4 The National Biomethane Registry may issue CoOs for biomethane installations in other European countries that do not have a National Biomethane Registry, provided that any National Biomethane Registry offering such a service has implemented appropriate measures to ensure that there is no double registration of those installations' production in other National Biomethane Registries.
- 4.5 When applying to become a System Participant, a National Biomethane Registry will provide the following documentation to the Secretary General of the Operator:
 - 4.5.1 a completed application form;
 - 4.5.2 a copy of its terms and conditions (with English translation);
 - 4.5.3 a copy of an audit report showing its compliance with industry good practice (with English Translation);
 - 4.5.4 a description of its functions, procedures and organisational structure (with English translation);
 - 4.5.5 a declaration that it will adhere to the current ERGaR Rules which may be updated from time to time;
 - 4.5.6 a description of its scope, features and requirements for issuing and accepting certificates as well as the applied biomass codes.
- 4.6 The Operator's Secretary General will review the application form and associated documents. An interface test with the ExtraVert platform and the IT-solution of the National Biomethane Registry complements the qualification process. If there is any cause for doubt or concern, the Secretary General may at its own discretion either request further evidence from the applicant or request the Operator's Executive Board to give a decision on how to proceed.
- 4.7 If the National Biomethane Registry fails the qualification process pursuant to 4.6, the National Biomethane Registry may reapply to participate in the Scheme when the reasons for denying the qualification have been successfully addressed. If the National Biomethane Registry is seeking another application, it has to complete the full application process in accordance with 4.6.

- 4.8 If the National Biomethane Registry has successfully passed the qualification process pursuant to 4.6, the Secretary General will submit a proposal to the Operator's Executive Board that the National Biomethane Registry shall be admitted to the Scheme as new System Participant. The final decision lies solely in the discretion of the Operator's Executive Board.
- 4.9 Following a positive decision by the Operator's Executive Board the Participation Agreement will be signed between the applicant and the Operator.
- 4.10 If information provided by the System Participant as part of the joining process, or during any later involvement in the Scheme, is found to be misleading, wrong, or fraudulent, or if the Operator discovers unusual or extraordinary activity by the System Participant, the Operator may suspend the System Participant's ExtraVert account and/or terminate the Participation Agreement immediately.

5 Activities carried out by the System Participant

- 5.1 Activities carried out by the System Participant include all tasks and processes necessary for the robust maintenance and administration of their biomethane registry and its IT system. Depending on the registry, these tasks and processes include, but are not limited to:
 - 5.1.1 the creation, transfer and cancellation of CoOs;
 - 5.1.2 the registration of account holders;
 - 5.1.3 the processing of customer service and market participant enquiries;
 - 5.1.4 the supervision of the IT system;
 - 5.1.5 the generation of statistics;
 - 5.1.6 the ongoing maintenance of the website; and
 - 5.1.7 the provision of training for staff and account holders.
- 5.2 System Participants may create biomethane CoOs only on the basis of reliable and accurate metering data provided by distribution and/or transmission network operators.
- 5.3 System Participants must document the creation, transfer, withdrawal and/or cancellation of every biomethane CoO, to maintain a clear record of each transaction.
- 5.4 System Participants must never issue CoOs for any fossil gas that may be blended with biomethane and enters the gas network via the same injection point.
- 5.5 System Participants may use the net or gross method for issuing CoOs and must keep the Operator informed of their current practice (see Appendix A – Net and Gross measurement of gas production).
- 5.6 Data held by System Participants must be stored for at least five (5) years.
- 5.7 System Participants may only upload Data Packages to the ExtraVert Platform at the request of their account holders.

6 Information system of the System Participant

- 6.1 System Participants must ensure that their manual and automated information systems for sending or receiving Data Packages are able to support the auditing of all transactions.
- 6.2 System Participants must successfully pass a technical interface test with the ExtraVert Platform prior to sending or receiving their first Data Package. This test ensures that all technical requirements for receiving or sending a Data Package are

met. The test is carried out by the Operator or a third party on behalf of the Operator. Registries are only allowed to send or receive Data Packages after a successfully completed interface test.

7 Data protection

- 7.1 Due care must be taken to protect data provided by economic operators, the Operator, and other System Participants.
- 7.2 Participation in the Scheme is conditional on compliance with all applicable national data protection laws and the EU General Data Protection Regulation.
- 7.3 The Operator will maintain a Privacy Policy which will be publicly available on the Operator's website.
- 7.4 System Participants must preserve confidentiality of information provided to them in connection with their activities unless
 - 7.4.1 they are implicitly or explicitly required to disclose such information under their own rules;
 - 7.4.2 they are otherwise authorised to disclose such information by the person to whom a duty of confidentiality is owed; or
 - 7.4.3 they are required to disclose such information by law, including by request of a competent authority having the force of law.

8 Sanction system

- 8.1 The Scheme has pre-defined measures to be taken if a System Participant fails or ceases to satisfy the requirements and commitments set out either in the ERGaR Rules or in the Participation Agreement.
- 8.2 These are internal Scheme sanctions, independent from the regulatory involvement of any competent authority.
- 8.3 The System Participants are legally responsible to the Operator: their commitments are laid down in the Participation Agreement concluded between the System Participants and the Operator.
- 8.4 Violations of commitments and requirements may be identified through audits and inspections by impartial auditors or inspectors acting on behalf of the Operator, or by any other means. If a violation in the aforementioned sense is identified, the Secretary General will initiate a sanction process by formally addressing the respective System Participant and point out the identified violation.
- 8.5 The System Participant is obliged to immediately take sufficient measures to remedy the violation of ERGaR Rules, and/or non-compliance with the stipulations of the Participation Agreement signed between the Operator and the System Participant. The Secretary General will set an appropriate period of time for remedying the violation.
- 8.6 Should the period of time elapse without successful corrective measures have been taken, the Secretary General will call a meeting of the Control and Sanction Committee.
- 8.7 The Control and Sanction Committee is composed of at least three members, including
 - 8.7.1 The Chairperson of the Control and Sanction Committee (being a person independent of the Operator and the System Participants, who has been nominated to the Control and Sanction Committee by the Operator's President

- following a decision by those of the Operator’s Board Members who are not employed by any of the System Participants);
- 8.7.2 The Operator’s Secretary General or Assistant/Deputy Secretary General;
- 8.7.3 One of the Operator’s Board Members (nominated to the Control and Sanction Committee by the Operator’s President following a decision by those of the Operator’s Board Members who are not employed by any of the System Participants).
- 8.7.4 If there are fewer than three (3) members who are not employed by any of the System Participants, the Operator’s Secretary General will make up the shortfall by inviting representatives of the Operator’s Full Members to make the decision. If the Operator has no Board Members who are not representatives of System Participants then a representative of one of the Operator’s Full Members may be appointed to the Committee.
- 8.8 Decisions of the Control and Sanction Committee on violation matters taken to it under 8.6. will be rendered by a minimum of three (3) members appointed according to 8.7.1 and 8.7.3.
- 8.9 The Committee as formed above may choose to invite independent legal, sustainability or auditing experts to form part of the committee on a permanent basis or to consider particular violation matters.
- 8.10 The Committee’s first step is to conduct a thorough investigation of the case, based on which it will decide on sanctions against the violating party. As part of this process, the Committee may consider a written submission from the System Participant(s) in question, should they wish to provide one.
- 8.11 During the time that the Operator is calling a meeting of the Committee and the Committee is conducting its investigation, the Operator may suspend the ExtraVert account of the System Participant in question.
- 8.12 The Operator imposes sanctions only on System Participants and only in accordance with the Participation Agreement signed between the Operator and the System Participant, which includes a commitment to adhere to the ERGaR Rules. Any party other than the Operator who has been affected by the violation of either the ERGaR Rules or a Participation Agreement must pursue recourse by their own means.
- 8.13 Sanction levels that can be applied are:
- 8.13.1 Sanction level 0: The Control and Sanction Committee determines that no other measures against the System Participant are necessary.
- 8.13.2 Sanction level 1: The Control and Sanction Committee determines that a reprimand note must be issued to the System Participant along with an instruction to implement the requirements of the Scheme more carefully.
- 8.13.3 Sanction level 2: The Control and Sanction Committee determines that a warning must be issued to the System Participant. If the problem continues to exist after the warning, a sanction of Sanction level 3 will be imposed.
- 8.13.4 Sanction level 3: The Control and Sanction Committee determines that a warning with contractual penalty must be issued to the System Participant. At Sanction level 3, a contractual penalty payment of up to 25,000 € [twenty-five thousand euros] may be imposed, depending on the severity of the violations and/or the level of damage caused by the violations and/or taking into consideration any advantages achieved through illegal activities, as well as the overall scale of the System Participant’s activities. The penalty payment is set individually in each case, at the discretion of the Control and Sanction Committee, and is legally enforceable as set out in the liability clause of the Participation Agreement.

8.14 Decisions of the Secretary General, the Control and Sanction Committee and its members in violation matters lie fully in the own discretion of the acting persons. The System Participants may not claim that decisions in violation matters may be rendered in a specific way or under application of certain principles or procedural steps. There is no judicial recourse to any instance of state courts or private arbitration against any decision rendered in violation matters. The Operator, the Secretary General, the members of the Control and Sanction Committee or any other person involved in violation matters may not be held liable – on whatever legal ground – by the System Participant for compensation of any damages or detriments resulting out of decisions rendered.

9 Appendix A – Net and Gross measurement of gas production

- 9.1 In order to reach the minimum requirements for the calorific value of the gas they inject, biomethane producers may be required to blend fossil gas into the biomethane, usually in the form of propane but potentially using other gaseous fossil fuels.
- 9.2 System Participants must have appropriate processes in place to identify whether fossil gas has been blended with biomethane and establish the energy content of that fossil gas, ensuring that CoOs are only issued for the biomethane portion of the total gas injected.
- 9.3 Therefore, CoOs only ever record information about MWh of biomethane injected and contain no information regarding any fossil gas blending. The issue of fossil gas blending is completely distinct from, and has no bearing on, the adoption of Net or Gross measurement methodologies.
- 9.4 Net and Gross measurement refers exclusively to the measurement of fossil gas combusted on site by a biomethane installation during the production of biomethane.
 - 9.4.1 It does not refer to the combustion of any biogas produced by the biomethane installation.
 - 9.4.2 It does not refer to the combustion of any biomethane produced by the biomethane installation.
 - 9.4.3 It does not refer to the use of electricity, neither generated on site from the combustion of biogas or biomethane nor withdrawn from the grid.
- 9.5 When measuring MWh of biomethane according to the Net method, the following calculation is used:
 - 9.5.1 Measure the total MWh of biomethane produced;
 - 9.5.2 Subtract MWh of fossil gas combusted on site, which may include:
 - 9.5.2.1 fossil gas used to heat the anaerobic digestion process;
 - 9.5.2.2 fossil gas used in the gas upgrading process;
 - 9.5.2.3 fossil gas used to power compressors;
 - 9.5.2.4 any other use of fossil gas in the process.
- 9.6 When measuring MWh of biomethane according to the Gross method, the MWh of biomethane produced is measured without any reference to the use of fossil gas combusted on site.
- 9.7 Under both, the Net and Gross methods, the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of the fossil gas combusted are included in any GHG emission factor allocated to the biomethane and recorded within a CoO or PoS.
- 9.8 System Participants must update the Scheme as to any change in their methodology regarding the use of Net or Gross method.
- 9.9 The Operator will maintain a factsheet stating whether System Participants issue CoOs in accordance with the Net or Gross method.
- 9.10 System Participants must host this Annex to the ERGaR Rules on their websites and circulate it to their account holders.
- 9.11 System Participants must ensure that cancellation statements generated by their registration databases identify whether cancelled CoOs adopted the Net or Gross method, where relevant taking into account the methodology employed by the System Participant that created the original CoOs.

10 Appendix B – Scheme Fees

10.1 This appendix sets out the fees payable to the Operator for each System Participant's use of the ExtraVert Platform.

10.2 The following fees will be charged to each System Participant:

10.2.1 Fixed Connection Fee;

10.2.2 Transaction Fee.


10.3 The Fixed Connection Fee payable by every System Participant is 5,000 € (five thousand euros) (excluding VAT) for a full calendar year. In the event that the ExtraVert Platform begins operation and/or the Participant gets connected after 01 January, the Fixed Connection Fee will be reduced pro rata on a monthly basis. A System Participant gets connected to the ExtraVert Platform upon receiving the log-in credentials to the live version of the ExtraVert platform.

10.4 The Transaction Fee is 0.02 €/MWh for each MWh of CoOs sent and accepted by the receiving System Participant as well as received and accepted by the System Participant.

10.5 Regardless of the calculation in clause 10.4, the maximum Transaction Fee payable during a calendar year will be 10,000 € (ten thousand euros) for each System Participant.

10.6 The Operator will issue an invoice for the Transaction Fee within 30 (thirty) days of the end of each calendar quarter. The Fixed Connection Fee will be invoiced together with the Transaction Fees for quarter 1. In the event that the System Participant gets connected after 01 January, the Fixed Connection Fee will be invoiced within 30 (thirty) days after the System Participant's connection to the live version of the ExtraVert Platform.

10.7 The Operator will produce a yearly report on the payments invoiced to the System Participants, to be issued by 15th February of the following year.

A stylized map of Europe in white, set against a dark blue background. The map shows the outlines of the major landmasses of Europe, including the British Isles, Scandinavia, and the Mediterranean region.

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