



bsl BIOMASS SUPPLIERS LIST

SELF-SUPPLIER FACT SHEET

Before beginning your application, you must determine which category of supplier you fall under. RHI participants will be able to register on the BSL as either a Self-Supplier or a Producer-Trader.

ARE YOU A SELF-SUPPLIER OR PRODUCER-TRADER?

Self – Supplier	Producer – Trader
Raw Materials Criteria	
Sources all wood from a 'permitted location' ¹ (none purchased)	Purchases in a raw material (i.e. timber) and processes it
Sources wood within 50 miles of the boiler in which it is burnt.	Can use wood from own woodland but is purchasing some in too
Waste wood from own production processes	Waste wood from production processes or waste collections/disposal
Fuel Criteria	
Does not sell any of the woodfuel to third party	Sells woodfuel on to third party (optional and not a requirement)
Has option to purchase fuel from BSL authorised supplier	Has option to purchase fuel from BSL authorised supplier
Fuel quality certification (waste exempt)	Fuel quality certification (waste exempt)

Please note that should you not meet all of the self-supplier raw materials and fuel criteria, such as purchasing any raw materials and processing it into fuel, you will not be eligible to be a 'Self-Supplier' and will need to either register as a Producer-Trader or self-report to Ofgem. Self reporting to Ofgem is only available for participants of the non-domestic scheme only.

FAQ: I WANT TO BE A PRODUCER-TRADER WHO PLANS TO CLAIM RHI FOR BURNING SOME OF THE FUEL I PRODUCE/TRADE. DO I NEED TO REGISTER AS A SELF-SUPPLIER AND A PRODUCER-TRADER FOR THE SAME FUEL?

You do not need to also register as a Self-Supplier as there will be an additional cost for submitting another application. You can include the volume you will use yourself within your Producer-Trader application but are not required to quarterly report regarding tonnages used in your own boiler to BSL as this is reported direct to Ofgem. There will still be reporting requirements to Ofgem for the fuel you burn yourself as to demonstrate RHI compliance – including retaining proof that the fuel is authorised on the BSL, and you are recommended to keep this in the form of a log showing:

- BSL Authorisation mark
- BSL Authorisation number
- Fuel type
- Quantity or volume produced in tonnes/kg/M3/net heat/gross heat and quantity used in own boiler
- Moisture content (% on a wet basis)

¹ A Permitted Location is one in respect of which the applicant has a right to harvest the solid biomass, whether by virtue of ownership, tenancy or otherwise, and which is no more than 50 miles from the accredited domestic plant in which that solid biomass is used.

SELF-SUPPLIER RAW MATERIALS

There are four options:

1. Waste: see below for FAQ on waste definition.
2. Timber: woodfuel originating from virgin timber.
3. Non-waste Residues/co products: Materials resulting from conversion/primary processing (e.g. in a sawmill) of roundwood from the forest, woodland or land management into timber products (sawdust, woodchips and slabwood).
4. Short Rotation Coppice: Fast growing tree species (poplar and willow) cut down to a low stump/stool in winter to produce new stems in the next growing season. Grown as an energy crop.

Options 2, 3 and 4 are all required to meet the fuel quality and sustainability criteria.

FUELS UNDER THE BSL

The BSL has four fuel types: firewood, chip, pellet and briquette.

These fuel types can be made from waste wood or virgin timber (blends of waste and virgin are also acceptable under the BSL), but fuels that are made from waste wood are required to provide additional waste-specific evidence at the application stage (see the FAQ below).

FAQ: WHAT IS CONSIDERED WASTE AND WHAT EVIDENCE SHOULD I PROVIDE?

For the purpose of the BSL there are two methods to define if your fuel is from waste. To confirm if RHI define your woodfuel as waste please refer to the Ofgem flow diagram. [Ofgem Flow Diagram](#) BSL guidelines require you to define your waste wood clearly for any customers using WRA guidance. [WRA Guidance](#)

Evidence Accepted: confirmation that you have contacted the Environment Agency (SEPA in Scotland or NRW in Wales) and obtained any necessary permits or exemptions from the relevant regulatory body to show that you are able to legally handle, process and burn this waste as a fuel. In addition, we would ask for a short description and/or photograph of the raw material that the fuel is being made from and a copy of your emissions certificate to demonstrate that you can burn waste wood in your boiler. See Waste Wood Guidelines for more information.

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS (NOT INCLUDING WASTE)

Self-Supplier		
Timber: Forestry Management Plan OR Felling Licence (recommended for small operations only)	Non-waste Residues: Explanation	Short Rotation Coppice: Energy Crops Scheme
<p>If obtaining a felling licence is not applicable (e.g. Felling less than 5 cubic metres in a calendar quarter), the BSL will accept a scanned copy of a map of the woodland that indicates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That it is their land and they have the legal right to source woody biomass from it. 2. The size of the woodland in hectares. 3. Where on the property the wood is being sourced. <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>If a felling licence is required, then a copy of the current felling licence is to be submitted.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>A management plan has been written for the woodland, or a grant has been awarded by the relevant forestry authority for the woodland. Preferred for larger woodlands.</p>	<p>Please provide an explanation of where you source your wood from, including the name, location and distances between sites.</p>	<p>Energy Crops Scheme offer letter or similar.</p> <p>Or, if it has existed for a number of years, a map showing location and hectares.</p>

VERSION CONTROL

DOCUMENT NO.	AMENDMENT DETAILS	DATE
1.0	Final Version Published	11.09.2015
1.1	Change to the evidence requirements for Producer-Trader emissions from managed by Ofgem to managed by E4tech	23.09.15
1.2	Removed FAQ: Under The BSL, What Is Considered Legacy Wood?	22.08.2017
1.3	The following has been updated: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Answer to the FAQ 'I want to be a producer-trader who plans...'• Evidence requirements table• Producer-Trader Land Criteria and Emissions.	17.07.2018
1.4	The following has been updated: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Records required- Quarterly reporting not required- Clarification of terminology- Update of evidence requirements for self suppliers- Removal of evidence requirements for producer traders- Addition of waste wood guidance	27.10.2022