

SPAIN

Asociación Española de Normalización (UNE) Decarbonizing the power sector with renewable gas

Overview

Renewable gas is increasingly gaining attention as a valuable resource for decarbonizing the economy. Yet to manage this energy vector, important regulatory development was needed, not least a reliable way of certifying its “guarantee of origin”. The Spanish Law on Climate Change and Energy Transition stipulates the need to promote renewable gas through the approval of specific plans. These should specify, among other measures, the implementation of a certification system that enables the supervision and control of guarantees of origin, without imposing a specific time frame.

The Spanish Central Administration wasn't aiming to create a system like the one in place for electricity in the near to medium term. For this reason, it was imperative that the gas sector and other groups, especially those linked to the production of renewable gas, develop a certification scheme based on a technical reference document that was agreed upon by all stakeholders involved. Thus UNE 0062:2020, *Guarantees of origin related to renewable gas. Guarantees of origin for biomethane*, was published under the responsibility of UNE, Spain's national standards board.

The initiative for this specification arose from the gas sector itself and was developed by a working group that brought together 15 of the sector's main stakeholders related to biomethane. The objective of the document was to standardize the guarantees of origin (GO) for biomethane at the national level, in line with current legislation and existing voluntary systems, with the aim of creating a standardized, transferable GO that can be used for the trade and dissemination of this renewable natural gas.

Outcomes and benefits

A “guarantee of origin” is an instrument used for verifying the origin of an energy source such as biomethane. UNE 0062:2020 paves the way for implementing the Law on Climate Change and Energy Transition and its requirement that biomethane be promoted through a system that offers suitable guarantees of its origin. The specification establishes the basic requirements of a GO for biomethane from any raw material and process prior to its injection into the gas network. To this end, it defines the relevant terms and definitions, as well as the requirements for registration, issuance, transfer and

cancellation in accordance with current legislation. It also covers measurement methods and auditing procedures. The extended use of biomethane of certified origin should also have a positive impact on the Spanish economy.

Partners involved

Requesting organization:

- Spanish Gas Association (SEDIGAS)

Supporting organization:

- Asociación Española de Normalización (UNE)

Timeline

This specification was one year in the making. It was based on European standard EN 16325:2013, *Guarantees of Origin related to Energy – Guarantees of Origin for Electricity*, and its Amendment A1:2015.