Operating Rules of the Operator of the Registry of Renewable Gases

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1 Introductory Provisions

SPP - distribúcia, a. s., with its registered office at Plátennícka 19013/2, 821 09 Bratislava - Ružinov borough, Slovak Republic, Business Registration No.: 35 910 739, registered in the Commercial Register of the Bratislava III City Court, Section: Sa, File No.: 3481/B (hereinafter the "Distribution System Operator" or "DSO"), is authorised to distribute gas under Permit No. 2006P 0070 - 9th amendment dated 27 November 2025, issued by the Regulatory Office for Network Industries (hereinafter the "Office").

These Operating Rules of the Operator of the Registry of Renewable Gases (hereinafter the "Operating Rules") incorporate the specific conditions for the operation of the Registry of Renewable Gases into the model operating rules in accordance with Section 45(5) of Act No. 250/2012 Coll. on Regulation in Network Industries, as amended (hereinafter the "Regulation Act").

The provisions of these Operating Rules are binding on Account Holders in the Registry of Renewable Gases and form an integral part of the contractual relationships between the DSO and Account Holders in the Registry of Renewable Gases concerning activities related to the issuing and use of Guarantees of Origin for renewable gas.

The fundamental obligation of Account Holders in the Registry of Renewable Gases is to provide and submit complete and accurate data to the DSO, exercising due professional care and duly checking the outputs submitted to the Registry of Renewable Gases.

These Operating Rules further elaborate on the provisions of Act No. 309/2009 Coll. on the Promotion of Renewable Energy Sources and High-Efficiency Cogeneration and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended (hereinafter "Act No. 309/2009 Coll."), in connection with the operation of the Registry of Renewable Gases.

1.1 Definitions

1.1.1 Terms defined for the gas sector in Act No. 251/2012 Coll. on Energy and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended (hereinafter the "Energy Act"), Act No. 309/2009 Coll. and the Market Rules shall have the same meaning in these Operating Rules, unless expressly stated otherwise herein. In addition, for the purposes of these Operating Rules, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

„**AIB**“ means the Association of Issuing Bodies,

„**AIB Hub**“ means the AIB communication system enabling cross-border transfers of Guarantees of Origin issued under the EECS standard between interconnected registries,

„**Distribution Network**“ means the distribution network operated by the DSO,

„**Domain**“ means an area comprising Production Devices in respect of which the DSO is the Competent Body; the Domain of the Slovak Republic is the territory of the Slovak Republic,

„**SPPD Domain Protocol**“ means the document describing the procedures and regulatory rules applied in the Domain of the Slovak Republic to the issuing, recording, transfer and use of Guarantees of Origin,

„**ERGaR Hub**“ means the communication system for cross-border imports and exports of Guarantees of Origin issued under the SK GAS standard between interconnected registries,

„**EU ETS**“ means the European Union Emissions Trading System,

„**G-REX**“ means the information system of the Registry of Renewable Gases, in which EECS Guarantees of Origin, SK GAS Guarantees of Origin and Biomethane Quantity Certificates are recorded separately,

„**MEcon SR**“ " means the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic,

„**MEnv SR**“ means the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic,

„**Downstream Network**“ means the network of another network operator connected to the Distribution Network at an exit point from the Distribution Network,

„**Renewable Gas**“ means renewable hydrogen, gaseous fuel produced from biomass that is biomethane, gaseous fuel produced from biomass that is biogas, landfill gas, gas from wastewater treatment plants, and renewable synthetic gas,

„**OKTE, a.s.**“ means the Short-Term Electricity Market Operator,

„**RES**“ means a renewable energy source,

„**EECS Rules**“ means the Principles and Rules of Operation of the European Energy Certificate System, including their associated documents,

„**Biomethane Quantity Certificate**“ means a document demonstrating the quantity of biomethane produced and injected into the Distribution Network,

„**SHMÚ**“ means the Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute,

„**Technical Conditions**“ means the technical conditions issued by the DSO pursuant to Section 19 of the Energy Act; the Technical Conditions are published on the DSO’s website,

„**Guarantee of Origin standard**“ means the EECS standard or the national SK GAS standard under which a Guarantee of Origin is issued, recorded, transferred and used,

„**AIB Standard Terms and Conditions**“ means the standard contractual terms concluded separately between the DSO and an Account Holder, governing the provision of transaction services for EECS Guarantees of Origin via the AIB Hub and the related rights and obligations of the contracting parties,

„**High-Efficiency CHP**“ means high-efficiency combined heat and power generation,

„**Guarantee of Origin**“ means an electronic document demonstrating that gas was produced from a renewable energy source, issued under the EECS or SK GAS standard,

„**G-REX Contract**“ means the contract on activities related to the issuing and use of Guarantees of Origin for renewable gas.

2. Contract on Activities Related to the Issuing and Use of Guarantees of Origin for Renewable Gas

2.1 The Contract on activities related to the issuing and use of Guarantees of Origin for renewable gas (also referred to as the "G-REX Contract") is concluded between the DSO, on the one hand, and a gas market participant, in particular a renewable gas producer, gas supplier or gas consumer wishing to be registered in the G-REX Registry (hereinafter the "Account Holder"), on the other hand. The subject matter of the G-REX Contract is the creation and maintenance of an account for the Account Holder and the conditions for the provision of services related to the issuing, transfer, use, recognition, expiry, auction and withdrawal of Guarantees of Origin. The Account Holder undertakes to comply with these Operating Regulations and the documents referred to in clause 3.7.

2.2 The DSO shall establish secure access to the G-REX Registry for the applicant, with multi-factor authentication, on the basis of the G-REX Contract (see clause D.1.14 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

3. Conditions for Concluding a Contract on Activities Related to the Issuing and Use of Guarantees of Origin for Renewable Gas

3.1 A prerequisite for an Account Holder’s access to the G-REX Registry is the conclusion of a written G-REX Contract and acceptance of the G-REX Registry User Manual. Activation of the EECS sub-account and use of the AIB Hub also require the conclusion of the AIB Standard Terms and Conditions (see clauses B.2.5, D.1.1 and D.1.8 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

3.2 The template G-REX Contract, the template AIB Standard Terms and Conditions and the SPPD Domain Protocol are published on the DSO’s website, www.spp-distribucia.sk, in the gas suppliers’ section, and contain all mandatory information and a list of annexes required for concluding the G-REX Contract.

3.3 A new applicant shall submit an application to conclude a G-REX Contract no later than 30 working days before the requested effective date of access to the G-REX Registry.

3.4 Upon receipt of an application to conclude a G-REX Contract, the DSO shall verify the completeness and accuracy of the data. If the data are incomplete or incorrect, the DSO shall return the application to the applicant and request that the deficiencies be remedied. The period between dispatch of the request for supplementary information and receipt of the revised application to conclude a G-REX Contract shall not count towards the period specified in clause 3.3.

3.5 Where an application to conclude a G-REX Contract is complete, the DSO shall confirm the proposal to conclude the G-REX Contract to the applicant no later than 15 working days after receipt of the application and send the draft G-REX Contract electronically in PDF format to the e-mail address stated in the application. The applicant’s statutory body, the natural person or the authorised representative(s), as applicable, shall sign the G-REX Contract and return four counterparts to the DSO’s registered office. An authorised representative shall provide a certified power of attorney authorising them to sign the G-REX Contract. The person authorised to act on behalf of the DSO shall sign the Contract and return two counterparts to the applicant at the address of its registered office.

3.6 If the data of an existing Account Holder that is a legal entity change, the Account Holder shall notify the DSO of the requested change without delay by e-mail. A change

to the bank account number in IBAN format shall be notified by an Account Holder that is a legal entity in writing, signed by the Account Holder's statutory body, and sent to the DSO's registered office. If the data of an existing Account Holder that is a natural person change, the Account Holder shall notify each requested change in writing, signed by the authorised natural person, and send it to the DSO's registered office (see clauses D.1.9 to D.1.11 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

3.7 These Operating Rules and the G-REX Registry User Manual, as amended from time to time, form an integral part of the G-REX Contract. The SPPD Domain Protocol, the EECS Rules and the separately concluded AIB Standard Terms and Conditions shall also apply, to the relevant extent, to an Account Holder with an activated EECS sub-account (see clauses B.2.5 and D.1.4 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

3.8 The G-REX Contract must be in writing.

4 Basic Information on the Operation of the Registry of Renewable Gases

4.1 The DSO is the operator of the Registry of Renewable Gases.[1]

4.2 The issuing, transfer, use or auction of a Guarantee of Origin is possible only after an account has been created in the G-REX Registry and the relevant sub-account has been activated. Guarantees of Origin issued under the EECS and SK GAS standards shall be held in separate sub-accounts and may not be transferred between those sub-accounts. Biomethane Quantity Certificates shall be recorded in a separate section of the G-REX Registry.

4.3 A renewable gas producer whose production plant is located in the territory of the Slovak Republic shall, upon first accessing the G-REX Registry, check and verify the data entered by the DSO in the G-REX Registry:

a) the details required for multi-factor login to the account (first name and surname, e-mail address and mobile telephone number with international dialling code);
b) the producer's name or the first name and surname of a natural person;
c) the Business Registration Number or other identifier, or the date of birth of a natural person;
d) contact details as stated in the application to conclude a G-REX Contract;
e) bank details.

4.4 A gas supplier, gas consumer or other Account Holder shall, upon first accessing the G-REX Registry, check and verify the data entered by the DSO in the G-REX Registry:

a) the details required for multi-factor login to the account (first name and surname, e-mail address and mobile telephone number with international dialling code);
b) the organisation's name or the first name and surname of a natural person;
c) the Business Registration Number or other identifier, or the date of birth of a natural person;
d) contact details as stated in the application to conclude a G-REX Contract;
e) bank details.

4.5 The DSO shall create an account for the Account Holder in the G-REX Registry, assign a unique identification code and, at the Account Holder's request, activate an EECS sub-account, an SK GAS sub-account or both sub-accounts. The DSO shall activate the EECS sub-account only once the conditions under clause 3.1 have been

[1] Section 11b(1) of Act No. 309/2009 Coll. on the Promotion of Renewable Energy Sources and High-Efficiency Cogeneration.

met. The Account Holder may deal only with Guarantees of Origin under a standard for which it has an activated sub-account (see clause D.1.8 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

4.6 The DSO shall create an account in the G-REX Registry free of charge, with read-only access to the Registry, for other Account Holders, in particular RONI, SHMÚ, MEnv SR and MEcon SR, without requiring a written G-REX Contract.

4.7 The DSO shall create an account in the Biomethane Quantity Certificates section of the G-REX Registry for the Office, free of charge and without requiring a written G-REX Contract, with functionality for cancelling Biomethane Quantity Certificates. In the same section, the DSO shall create an account for OKTE, a. s., free of charge and without requiring a written G-REX Contract, with read-only access to the Registry.

4.8 If the data provided under clauses 4.3 or 4.4 subsequently change, the Account Holder shall notify the DSO within 15 working days of the change. Otherwise, the DSO may suspend the Account Holder's access to the G-REX Registry until the data concerned have been corrected (see clause D.7.1 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

4.9 A renewable gas producer shall register in the G-REX Registry every renewable gas Production Device that will produce renewable gas for which the producer intends to request the issuing of a Guarantee of Origin, by verifying the data recorded in the G-REX Registry and providing the DSO with the following additional information (see clause D.3.1 of the SPPD Domain Protocol):

a) contact details of the renewable gas producer;

b) the organisation's account in the G-REX Registry to which Guarantees of Origin for renewable gas produced by the relevant Production Device are to be issued, and the selected Guarantee of Origin standard; only one standard may be used for a Production Device for any monthly production period, and a change of standard requires a prior amendment to the Production Device's registration (see clause E.10.3 of the SPPD Domain Protocol);

c) the name of the renewable gas Production Device;

d) the address and GPS coordinates of the site where the Production Device operates;

e) identification of the point in the DSO's distribution network to which the biomethane Production Device is connected and at which biomethane is injected;

f) identification of the compression point where renewable gas is not injected into the distribution network or a downstream distribution network but is subsequently distributed in pressure vessels,

g) identification of the point in the downstream distribution network at which renewable gas is injected into that network and in which the gas is consumed;

h) information on the designated meter and its identifier, and evidence that the measurement of renewable gas quantity and quality complies with the Technical Conditions or the technical conditions for gas distribution of the downstream distribution network;

i) information on the designated meter and its identifier, and evidence that the measurement of renewable gas quantity and quality complies with the technical conditions of the equipment used to compress renewable gas into pressure vessels;

j) the commissioning date of the renewable gas Production Device;

k) information on whether the renewable gas Production Device has received support from public budgets or European Union funds;

l) information on whether the renewable gas producer is also an electricity producer entitled to support through a surcharge or premium;

m) the installed capacity of the renewable gas Production Device in MW;

n) when applying to conclude a G-REX Contract and thereafter at 12-month intervals, a document issued by a professionally qualified person for the purpose of verifying the calculation pursuant to Section 14d of Act No. 309/2009 Coll., confirming the production of renewable gas at the Production Device and specifying the particular type of renewable gas under Section 2(6)(m) of Act No. 309/2009 Coll. for which a Guarantee of Origin for renewable gas is to be issued:

1. renewable hydrogen;
2. gaseous fuel produced from biomass that is biogas;
3. gaseous fuel produced from biomass that is biomethane;
4. landfill gas;
5. gas from wastewater treatment plants;
6. renewable synthetic gas;
7. gaseous fuel from renewable sources of non-biological origin other than those referred to in points 1 and 6; and

the energy source from which the renewable gas was produced (see clauses D.3.2, D.6.1 and F.1.1 of the SPPD Domain Protocol);

o) where the renewable gas producer produces gaseous fuel from biomass that is biogas, landfill gas, gas from wastewater treatment plants, renewable synthetic gas or gaseous fuel from renewable sources of non-biological origin, credible evidence submitted to the DSO of the purposeful local use of such gas (replacing natural gas consumption) and demand for its Guarantee of Origin (see clauses D.3.3 and E.2.2 of the SPPD Domain Protocol);

p) when applying to conclude a G-REX Contract and thereafter at 12-month intervals, a document by which the producer demonstrates compliance with the sustainability and greenhouse gas emission savings criteria under Section 19b, paragraph (a), of Act No. 309/2009 Coll., if the renewable gas producer demonstrates (declares) compliance with those criteria on the Guarantee of Origin (see clause D.3.4 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

4.10 If biomethane is injected into the DSO's distribution network, the DSO shall ensure the remote transmission of metering data in kWh from the designated meter at the point of injection into the distribution network to the DSO's information system, in accordance with the DSO's Technical Conditions (see clause D.3.5 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

4.11 If renewable gas is injected into a downstream distribution network in which it is also consumed, the renewable gas producer shall ensure the remote transmission of metering data in kWh from the designated meter at the point of injection into that downstream distribution network to the DSO's information system, in accordance with the DSO's Technical Conditions (see clause D.3.6 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

4.12 If renewable gas is not injected into the distribution network or a downstream distribution network, the renewable gas producer shall ensure the remote transmission of metering data in kWh from the designated meter to the DSO's information system, in accordance with the DSO's Technical Conditions, from the compression point where the renewable gas is subsequently distributed in pressure vessels (see clause D.3.7 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

4.13 If the data recorded in the G-REX Registry do not correspond to the actual situation, the renewable gas producer shall correct or supplement the data without delay to eliminate the discrepancy.

4.14 Once the renewable gas producer has confirmed the accuracy of the data recorded in the G-REX Registry or eliminated the discrepancy, the DSO shall confirm those data within 30 days and assign a unique identifier to the registered renewable gas Production Device and an identifier to the designated meter used to measure the quantity of renewable gas (see clause D.3.9 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

4.15 At the DSO's request, the renewable gas producer shall also provide the following information:

a) data on metering equipment;

b) data on all production auxiliaries associated with the renewable gas Production Device;

c) data on the quantity of renewable gas consumed for internal operational purposes, where that consumption is not metered;

d) a diagram of the renewable gas Production Device, including information on the location of:

   i. the metering equipment used to measure renewable gas consumption in a facility that also generates electricity;

   ii. all production auxiliaries of the renewable gas Production Device;

   iii. all metering equipment in the renewable gas production operation;

e) the method of calculating the net volume of renewable gas produced by the relevant renewable gas Production Device on the basis of measured data.

4.16 If there are doubts about the veracity of the data on a renewable gas Production Device recorded in the G-REX Registry, the DSO shall request the renewable gas producer to correct or supplement the data within a reasonable period not exceeding 30 days. If the data are not unequivocally corrected or supplemented within that period, the DSO may refer the matter to the Regulatory Office for Network Industries (RONI) for investigation. If the RONI investigation establishes that the renewable gas producer provided false data about the Production Device, the DSO shall not confirm the data and shall not assign a unique identifier to the renewable gas Production Device, or shall withdraw such identifier from the renewable gas producer. If the renewable gas producer has not confirmed the accuracy of the data recorded in the G-REX Registry or has not eliminated the discrepancy, the DSO shall not confirm those data. Without confirmation of the data by the DSO, the renewable gas Production Device that produced the renewable gas for which the producer intends to request a Guarantee of Origin shall not be displayed in the G-REX Registry (see clauses D.3.11 and D.7.2 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

4.17 If changes occur and the Account Holder's data no longer correspond to the data provided, the Account Holder shall correct or supplement the relevant data in the G-REX Registry without delay.

5 Issuing of a Guarantee of Origin

5.1 The renewable gas producer, as Account Holder, shall request the DSO by e-mail to issue Guarantees of Origin for a monthly period by the 7th working day following the month in which the renewable gas was produced. The request shall state the type and quantity of renewable gas in kWh and the standard under which issuing is requested. The selected standard must correspond to the Production Device's registration, and Guarantees of Origin may be issued under only one standard for each Production Device for the relevant monthly period. Where propane is added to biomethane injected into the DSO's network, the biomethane producer shall also state the quantity

of propane added, in kWh, to the injected biomethane for which Guarantees of Origin are requested (see clauses E.1.6, E.1.9, E.3.1 and E.3.3 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

5.2 The quantity of renewable gas for which the renewable gas producer, as Account Holder, requests the issuing of a Guarantee of Origin must correspond to the data measured by the designated meter and remotely transmitted to the DSO's information system. Guarantees of Origin for the same quantity of renewable gas for a monthly production period may be issued under only one standard, either EECS or SK GAS (see clauses E.1.9, E.2.1 and E.3.7 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

5.3 If the data on the quantity of renewable gas measured by the designated meter and remotely transmitted to the DSO's information system differ from the quantity for which the renewable gas producer, as Account Holder, requests the issuing of Guarantees of Origin, the DSO shall inform the Account Holder. The Account Holder shall investigate the reasons for the discrepancy and send corrected data to the DSO by e-mail within 5 working days (see clause E.3.8 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

5.4 At the DSO's request, the renewable gas producer shall allow the DSO to verify the data necessary for the issuing and use of a Guarantee of Origin for renewable gas, including on-site inspection and access to meters (see clause E.3.9 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

5.5 Before a Guarantee of Origin is issued, the energy quantity of propane added to the biomethane, as reported to the DSO by the biomethane producer on the basis of the measured quantity, shall be deducted from the measured energy quantity of biomethane injected into the DSO's distribution network (see clauses E.2.3 to E.2.5 and E.3.10 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

5.6 The DSO shall issue a Guarantee of Origin electronically through the G-REX Registry for each whole MWh of renewable gas by the 14th working day following the month in which the renewable gas was produced, provided that the request for issuing was received by the 7th working day. One Guarantee of Origin corresponds to one MWh; any remainder of less than one MWh shall be carried over to the next production period, provided that the Production Device's registration and the standard remain unchanged (see clauses E.1.7, E.1.8 and E.3.11 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

5.7 A Guarantee of Origin may be issued no earlier than the calendar month following the production period and no later than 12 months after the end of the production period to which it relates. Issuing is possible from the date on which the designated meter is assigned, in the G-REX Registry, to a registered renewable gas Production Device located in the territory of the Slovak Republic (see clauses E.1.6 and E.3.12 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

5.8 The issued Guarantee of Origin shall be recorded in the Account Holder's sub-account in the G-REX Registry corresponding to the EECS or SK GAS standard, and the Account Holder shall be notified electronically of its issuing.

6 Transfer of a Guarantee of Origin

6.1 A Guarantee of Origin may be transferred in the following ways:

a) a transfer of a Guarantee of Origin between accounts within the G-REX Registry of the Slovak Republic under the same standard;

b) a transfer of an EECS Guarantee of Origin into the G-REX Registry of the Slovak Republic from the registry of an AIB member via the AIB Hub;

c) a transfer of an EECS Guarantee of Origin from the G-REX Registry of the Slovak Republic to the registry of an AIB member via the AIB Hub;

d) a transfer of a non-EECS Guarantee of Origin[2] into the G-REX Registry of the Slovak Republic from the registry of an ERGaR member via the ERGaR Hub, provided that the conditions of the SPPD Domain Protocol are met (see clauses E.9.14 and E.10.4 of the SPPD Domain Protocol);

e) a transfer of an SK GAS Guarantee of Origin from the G-REX Registry of the Slovak Republic to the registry of an ERGaR member via the ERGaR Hub, provided that the conditions of the SPPD Domain Protocol are met (see clauses E.9.14 and E.10.5 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

6.2 The Account Holder shall submit a transfer order under clause 6.1(a), (c) or (e), where the transfer is from the G-REX Registry, electronically through the G-REX Registry (see clause E.9.2 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

6.3 A transfer order under clause 6.1(b) or (d), where the transfer is into the G-REX Registry, shall be initiated from the sending registry through the relevant hub (see clauses E.9.4 and E.9.5 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

6.4 A transfer is possible only between accounts maintained under the same Guarantee of Origin standard. Imports via the ERGaR Hub are possible only for Guarantees of Origin that are not EECS Guarantees of Origin and that have been issued by a body duly appointed by a European Union Member State. The export of an SK GAS Guarantee of Origin to a Domain that has an appointed Issuing Body for the same energy carrier and is connected to the AIB Gas Hub is not permitted (see clauses E.9.14, E.10.4 and E.10.5 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

6.5 The transfer of a Guarantee of Origin under clause 6.1(a) is automated, and the Account Holder shall be informed of the successful transfer in the G-REX Registry.

6.6 The transfer of a Guarantee of Origin into the G-REX Registry under clause 6.1(b) or (d) is automated; the DSO shall perform the necessary validations, and the Account Holder shall be informed of the outcome in the G-REX Registry (see clauses E.9.8 and E.9.9 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

6.7 The transfer of a Guarantee of Origin from the G-REX Registry under clause 6.1(c) or (e) is automated; the DSO shall provide the necessary information to the relevant hub, and the Account Holder shall be informed of the outcome in the G-REX Registry (see clauses E.9.10 and E.9.11 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

6.8 The AIB Hub shall be used for transfers of EECS Guarantees of Origin, and the ERGaR Hub shall be used for transfers of SK GAS Guarantees of Origin. An EECS Guarantee of Origin may not be transferred through the ERGaR Hub, an SK GAS Guarantee of Origin may not be transferred through the AIB Hub, and a Biomethane Quantity Certificate may not be transferred through either hub (see clauses E.9.14 and E.10.2 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

6.9 When exporting an SK GAS Guarantee of Origin via the ERGaR Hub, the Account Holder shall ensure that it is used exclusively in the Domain to which it was directly exported and is not subsequently exported to or used in another Domain. The Account Holder shall appropriately incorporate this condition into its contractual relationship with the recipient and, at the DSO's request, demonstrate compliance. The DSO is entitled to verify compliance with this obligation (see clause E.10.5 of the SPPD

[2] The term "non-EECS" is a collective designation for Guarantees of Origin that have not been issued under the EECS standard; it is not a separate third standard. It includes national Guarantees of Origin under the SK GAS standard and admissible foreign non-EECS Guarantees of Origin (see clauses E.9.1(d), E.9.14 and E.10.4 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

Domain Protocol and the specific conditions of the participation agreement with AIB).

6.10 A Guarantee of Origin may be transferred no later than 12 months after the end of the production period to which it relates. A cancelled or expired Guarantee of Origin may not be transferred (see clauses E.9.22, E.13.1 and E.13.2 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

6.11 The transfer of a Guarantee of Origin shall be recorded in the Account Holder's account in the G-REX Registry.

7 Use of a Guarantee of Origin

7.1 An Account Holder in the G-REX Registry that is a final consumer of renewable gas in the Slovak Republic shall use a Guarantee of Origin by cancelling it electronically in its account through the G-REX Registry. Cancellation is final, and the Guarantee of Origin may not subsequently be transferred or used again.

7.2 An Account Holder in the G-REX Registry that is a final consumer of renewable gas in the Slovak Republic shall use a Guarantee of Origin by entering the information required for cancellation against the relevant Guarantee of Origin in its account, in particular the country of consumption, the purpose of cancellation, the beneficiary and the consumption period (see clause E.12.3 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

The purpose of cancellation may include, in particular, use for the EU ETS, demonstration of the share of energy from RES, or another purpose[3] permitted under the legislation and the rules of the relevant standard.

7.3 An Account Holder in the G-REX Registry that, under Act No. 309/2009 Coll., enters data on gaseous fuels produced, imported and exported into the electronic register of transport fuels in the Slovak Republic operated by SHMÚ shall use a cancelled Guarantee of Origin for renewable gas containing a Proof of Sustainability pursuant to Section 14b of Act No. 309/2009 Coll. to demonstrate compliance with the reference value for sustainable fuels blended into fuels placed on the market.

7.4 If a Guarantee of Origin cannot be transferred because the destination Domain is not connected to the AIB Hub or the ERGaR Hub, or for technical reasons, the Account Holder may request cancellation of the Guarantee of Origin for use outside the Domain of the Slovak Republic (see clauses E.9.20, E.12.11 and E.12.12 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

7.5 The DSO shall carry out an Ex-Domain Cancellation by agreement with the relevant Issuing Body and in accordance with the rules of the Domain Protocol (see clauses E.12.12 to E.12.15 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

7.6 Any Account Holder in the G-REX Registry is entitled to request the use of a Guarantee of Origin by cancelling it in its account.

7.7 A Guarantee of Origin may be used during its validity period, no later than 12 months after the end of the production period to which it relates.

7.8 Upon expiry of the period specified in clause 7.7, the Guarantee of Origin shall expire automatically, be marked as expired in the G-REX Registry, and may no longer be transferred, cancelled or used (see clauses E.13.1 to E.13.4 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

7.9 The DSO shall confirm the use of Guarantees of Origin through their cancellation in the G-REX Registry, and the G-REX Registry shall notify the Account Holder

[3] Another purpose may include, in particular, the use of a Guarantee of Origin to demonstrate the share of renewable gas in the CNG/LNG transport fuel sector.

electronically of the outcome of the cancellation (see clauses E.12.7 to E.12.9 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

7.10 The use of a Guarantee of Origin shall be recorded in the Account Holder's account in the G-REX Registry.

8 Recognition of a Guarantee of Origin

8.1 A Guarantee of Origin issued by the relevant Issuing Body of a European Union Member State shall be considered recognised if it has been transferred to an Account Holder's account in the G-REX Registry via the AIB Hub as an EECS Guarantee of Origin or via the ERGaR Hub as a non-EECS Guarantee of Origin (see clauses E.9.8 and E.9.9 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

8.2 A recognised Guarantee of Origin must meet the requirements of Act No. 309/2009 Coll., the SPPD Domain Protocol and the rules of the relevant Guarantee of Origin standard; after import, it shall be recorded and used under the same standard.

8.3 The DSO shall recognise only a Guarantee of Origin issued by a body duly appointed to issue it by the relevant European Union Member State. A Guarantee of Origin issued in a third country outside the European Union may be recognised only in accordance with applicable legislation and an effective mutual recognition agreement between the European Union and that third country (see clauses E.10.4 and E.10.6 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

8.4 A recognised Guarantee of Origin shall be recorded in the Account Holder's relevant sub-account in the G-REX Registry and may not be converted between the EECS and SK GAS standards.

8.5 A Guarantee of Origin may be recognised during its validity period, no later than 12 months after the end of the production period to which it relates.

9 Auctions of Guarantees of Origin

9.1 Where investment aid or other support from a public support scheme is provided for renewable gas Production Devices, and where required by generally binding legislation and/or a decision of a public authority, the DSO shall transfer part of the issued Guarantees of Origin for renewable gases from the renewable gas producers' accounts to a separate account for Guarantees of Origin to be auctioned.

9.2 Clause 9.1 shall not apply where investment aid or other support is provided through a competitive bidding procedure under a separate regulation. [4]

9.3 Only an Account Holder in the G-REX Registry may participate in an auction.

9.4 Where necessary, the DSO shall publish details of auctions of Guarantees of Origin on its website.

10 Withdrawal of a Guarantee of Origin

10.1 The DSO shall, without delay, withdraw a Guarantee of Origin from an Account Holder's account at the Account Holder's written request or on its own initiative if it was issued or transferred as a result of fraud, issued in error, or issued in breach of Act No. 309/2009 Coll., these Operating Regulations or the SPPD Domain Protocol (see clauses E.14.1 to E.14.4 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

10.2 The DSO shall notify the Account Holder whose account held the Guarantee of Origin concerned of its withdrawal. A withdrawn Guarantee of Origin may not be

[4] Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (OJ L 187, 26 June 2014), as amended.

transferred, cancelled or used; if the withdrawal concerns a Guarantee of Origin that has been transferred across borders, the DSO shall cooperate with the relevant Issuing Body or hub operator to take corrective action (see clauses E.11.3, E.11.4 and E.14.4 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

10.3 The Account Holder shall be liable for any and all damage incurred by the DSO or another entity in connection with an incorrectly issued, transferred, used or recognised Guarantee of Origin where the inaccuracy originates from the Account Holder's activities, including the omission or incorrect provision, submission or transmission of any data, whether knowingly or unknowingly. Corrective action must not result in an undue advantage or double claiming of the relevant quantity of energy.

11 Specific Provisions on the Issuing and Use of Biomethane Quantity Certificates

11.1 Only an Account Holder in the G-REX Registry that is a producer of biomethane in the Slovak Republic and injects that biomethane into the DSO's distribution network is entitled to request cancellation, in its account, of an EECS or SK GAS Guarantee of Origin for the injected biomethane for the purpose of issuing a Biomethane Quantity Certificate. This cancellation purpose is predefined in the G-REX Registry (see clauses E.1.2 and E.12.4 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

11.2 On the basis of a Guarantee of Origin for biomethane cancelled for the purpose of issuing a Biomethane Quantity Certificate, the DSO shall issue, in a separate section of the G-REX Registry, a Biomethane Quantity Certificate corresponding to the number of cancelled Guarantees of Origin to the Account Holder, who must be a biomethane producer in the Slovak Republic. The Biomethane Quantity Certificate shall expire 12 months after the end of the production period to which it relates (see clauses E.1.2, E.3.14, E.3.15 and E.13.1 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

11.3 An Account Holder in the G-REX Registry that is a biomethane producer in the Slovak Republic and injects the biomethane into the DSO's distribution network may transfer a Biomethane Quantity Certificate exclusively to an Account Holder in the Biomethane Quantity Certificates section of the G-REX Registry that is a final consumer of biomethane generating electricity through High-Efficiency CHP (see clauses B.1.6 and E.3.16 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

11.4 An Account Holder in the Biomethane Quantity Certificates section of the G-REX Registry that is a final consumer of biomethane generating electricity through High-Efficiency CHP shall demonstrate biomethane consumption for the purposes of support under Section 3a(2) of Act No. 309/2009 Coll. by transferring the Biomethane Quantity Certificate to the Office's account. The Office shall cancel the Biomethane Quantity Certificate if the Account Holder generates electricity from biomethane. A Biomethane Quantity Certificate may not be exported or transferred through the AIB Hub or the ERGaR Hub (see clauses E.3.17, E.3.19 and E.12.5 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

12 Protection of Information

12.1 The Account Holder and the DSO shall treat information of a commercial, technical, strategic, financial or otherwise sensitive nature that is not publicly available and is normally considered valuable and confidential as confidential information, even if it is not expressly marked as such. Disclosure of such information requires the other party's prior written consent. For the avoidance of doubt, this confidentiality provision does not prevent the DSO from providing information to RONI, MEcon SR, MEnv SR, the tax authorities, the police, Europol and other public authorities, or, to the extent necessary, to AIB, the operators of the AIB Hub or ERGaR Hub and the

relevant Issuing Bodies for the execution of a transaction, an inspection, the correction of an error or the resolution of a dispute. The DSO may publish aggregated and anonymised statistical data on Guarantees of Origin without identifying Account Holders. The DSO shall retain records relating to Guarantees of Origin for at least ten years after their cancellation or expiry (see clauses G.1.2 and G.2.1 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

13 Payment and Invoicing Conditions

13.1 The Account Holder shall pay the DSO a fee for the services defined in these Operating Regulations, in the amount determined by the Office's price decision. In this respect, the DSO shall invoice the Account Holder as follows:

a) An invoice for the pro rata annual fixed payment for the first calendar year, in accordance with the price currently in force and published on the DSO's website, shall be issued within 15 working days of signing the G-REX Contract. For each subsequent calendar year in which the G-REX Contract is effective after its first year, the invoice for the annual fixed payment shall be issued no later than 15 January of the calendar year to which that payment relates. The DSO shall send the invoice by e-mail and by post to the Account Holder's address stated in the G-REX Contract. The invoice shall be payable within 14 calendar days of its issuing to the Account Holder in the G-REX Registry. Services related to Guarantees of Origin for the first calendar year to which the annual fixed payment relates shall be made available to the Account Holder within 3 working days after the payment has been credited to the DSO's account.

b) An invoice based on the tariff for issuing a Guarantee of Origin and the tariffs for transferring, exporting or importing a Guarantee of Origin from or into the G-REX Registry, including transactions via the AIB Hub or ERGaR Hub, shall be issued in accordance with the price currently in force and published on the DSO's website. The DSO shall issue this invoice no later than the 15th calendar day of the month following the month in which the Guarantee of Origin was issued, transferred, imported or exported. The DSO shall send the invoice by e-mail and by post to the Account Holder's address stated in the G-REX Contract. The invoice shall be payable within 14 calendar days of its issuing to the Account Holder in the G-REX Registry.

c) An invoice shall be issued for Guarantees of Origin to which an auction participant has become entitled on the basis of the outcome of an auction of Guarantees of Origin. The DSO shall issue an advance invoice no later than the 15th calendar day after the auction results have been evaluated. The DSO shall send the advance invoice to the Account Holder in the G-REX Registry by e-mail to the address stated in the annex to the G-REX Contract. The advance invoice shall be payable within 14 calendar days of its issuing to the Account Holder in the G-REX Registry. Once the advance invoice has been paid, the DSO shall issue a final invoice and send it to the Account Holder in the G-REX Registry by e-mail to the address stated in the annex to the G-REX Contract.

13.2 If an invoice falls due on a Saturday, Sunday or non-working day, it shall fall due on the next working day. Payment of an invoice shall be deemed to have been made when the invoiced amount is credited to the DSO's account.

13.3 The final invoice shall be issued in accordance with Act No. 222/2004 Coll. on Value Added Tax.

13.4 If the Account Holder is a foreign entity that is not registered for VAT in the Slovak Republic, or has an establishment in the Slovak Republic without material or

personnel resources, the VAT treatment of invoicing shall be governed by the legislation applicable in the European Union or in third countries, and the reverse charge mechanism shall be applied.

13.5 If the tax rate changes at the time the tax liability arises, the DSO shall apply VAT to the invoice at the rate prescribed by the legislation in force when the tax liability arises.

13.6 If an Account Holder's complaint is upheld, the DSO shall issue a corrective invoice. Where the invoicing results in an amount payable by the Account Holder to the DSO, the corrective invoice shall be payable within 14 calendar days of issuing. The invoice shall be sent by e-mail and by post to the Account Holder's address stated in the G-REX Contract. Where the invoicing results in an amount payable by the DSO to the Account Holder, the invoice shall be payable within 14 calendar days of issuing. The invoice shall be sent by e-mail and by post to the Account Holder's address stated in the G-REX Contract. If an invoice falls due on a Saturday, Sunday or non-working day, it shall fall due on the next working day. Payment of an invoice shall be deemed to have been made when the invoiced amount is credited to the DSO's account or when the invoiced amount is debited from the DSO's account.

13.7 If the Account Holder is late in making a payment, the DSO shall be entitled to suspend the Account Holder's access to the G-REX Registry and prevent the Account Holder from operating its account until the full outstanding amount has been duly paid (see clause D.2.1 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

13.8 If the total fees payable by an Account Holder for the relevant calendar month exceed EUR 5,000, the DSO shall be entitled to require the Account Holder to lodge financial security in an account designated by the DSO. The Account Holder shall pay the security into the DSO's account upon the DSO's request. In that request, the DSO shall specify the deadline by which funds in the amount determined by the DSO must be credited to its account.

14 Complaints

14.1 The Account Holder may submit a complaint concerning services provided by the DSO in relation to the issuing, transfer, use, recognition, expiry, withdrawal or auction of Guarantees of Origin without delay, but no later than 10 working days after the matter giving rise to the complaint occurred. The DSO shall provide a written response on the merits of the complaint no later than 30 days after receipt. Submission of a complaint shall not suspend the due date of an invoice (see clauses I.1.1 and I.1.3 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

14.2 The Account Holder shall submit a complaint by e-mail.

14.3 A complaint must contain the following basic information:

a) identification of the complainant,
b) the subject of the complaint,
c) the period to which the complaint relates,
d) a description of the complaint,
e) the disputed data and their correct value according to the Account Holder's supporting documentation,
f) identification of the evidence on which the complaint is based.

14.4 The DSO shall investigate whether it made an error in the issuing, transfer, use, recognition, cancellation, expiry, withdrawal or auction of Guarantees of Origin. If the complaint concerns a cross-border transfer, the DSO shall cooperate, as necessary,

with the operator of the relevant hub or the Issuing Body concerned and proceed as follows (see Section E.11 and clause I.1.5 of the SPPD Domain Protocol):

a) if the DSO identifies an error, it shall notify the affected Account Holder within 15 working days of receipt of the complaint and correct the data or take other corrective action permitted under Chapters 10 and 15 of these Operating Regulations;

b) if the DSO does not identify an error, it shall notify the affected Account Holder within 15 working days of receipt of the complaint.

15 Common Provisions

15.1 For the avoidance of doubt, the DSO's obligation as the operator of the Registry of Renewable Gases under these Operating Regulations is, on the basis of transmitted or submitted data, to issue, transfer, use, recognise, cancel, allow to expire or withdraw a Guarantee of Origin and perform the related actions within the scope of the SPPD Domain Protocol. The DSO shall not be liable for direct or indirect damage where the relevant transmitted or submitted data were incorrect, or for unavailability of the AIB Hub or ERGaR Hub caused by circumstances beyond the DSO's reasonable control (see Sections E.11 to E.14 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

15.2 The DSO and the Account Holder in the G-REX Registry shall inform each other of any circumstances of which they are aware that could lead to damage and shall endeavour to prevent imminent damage.

15.3 An Account Holder with an activated EECS sub-account shall comply with the AIB Standard Terms and Conditions, the SPPD Domain Protocol and the EECS Rules (see clause B.2.5 of the SPPD Domain Protocol). In the event of a conflict between the SPPD Domain Protocol and the AIB Standard Terms and Conditions, the SPPD Domain Protocol shall prevail; this shall not affect the binding force of generally binding legislation or of these Operating Regulations.

15.4 The Account Holder shall, at its own expense, meet the technical and security prerequisites for using the G-REX Registry and protect access credentials and the security and integrity of data. In the event of a serious or repeated breach of obligations under the AIB Standard Terms and Conditions, the DSO may take appropriate corrective measures, including temporarily suspending the Account Holder's right to export via the AIB Hub until the breach is remedied.

15.5 If the DSO or the Account Holder discovers an error in the issuing, transfer, use, recognition, cancellation, expiry or withdrawal of a Guarantee of Origin, it shall inform the other party as soon as possible. If a cross-border transaction is affected, the DSO shall also inform the relevant Issuing Body or hub operator to the extent necessary to take corrective action (see clauses E.11.2 to E.11.4 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

15.6 If an error occurs during the issuing, transfer, use, recognition, cancellation, expiry or withdrawal of a Guarantee of Origin as a result of unauthorised access to or a malfunction of the G-REX Registry, the DSO and the Account Holder shall cooperate and make reasonable efforts to prevent unjust enrichment, double counting or double claiming of the relevant quantity of energy. The DSO may make a necessary correction solely to remedy the error and in accordance with legislation, the SPPD Domain Protocol and the rules of the relevant standard (see Section E.11 of the SPPD Domain Protocol).

15.7 The prices for activities related to the issuing, import, export or transfer of Guarantees of Origin shall be determined in accordance with the prices currently in force and published on the DSO's website, with the following structure:

a) an annual fixed payment for Account Holders with whom the DSO, as operator of the G-REX Registry, has concluded a G-REX Contract;
b) a tariff for the issuing of a Guarantee of Origin by the DSO, as operator of the G-REX Registry;
c) a tariff for the transfer, import or export of a Guarantee of Origin by the DSO, as operator of the G-REX Registry.

15.8 A successful auction participant shall pay the DSO the price of the Guarantees of Origin traded. The price of the Guarantees of Origin traded shall be the price at which the auction participant was successful in the auction.

15.9 Within the G-REX Registry, the DSO shall evaluate and publish the following types of reports or overviews on its website (see clause G.1.1 of the SPPD Domain Protocol):

a) a summary overview of transactions;
b) a summary overview of transactions by technology;
c) a detailed overview of transactions;
d) a list of Account Holders in the Slovak Domain;
e) the results of any auctions.