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# NTA 8080-2 (en)

## Sustainably produced biomass for bioenergy and bio-based products – Part 2: Chain-of-custody requirements

Netherlands technical agreement

Replaces NTA 8080:2009 (en), together with NTA 8080-1:2015 (en)

ICS: 03.100.50; 13.020.20; 27.190; 71.100.99; 75.160; 83.140.99

December 2015

**NEN**

Normalisatie: de wereld op één lijn.

Voorbeeld  
Preview



Netherlands technical agreement

# **NTA 8080-2**

(en)

Sustainably produced biomass for bioenergy  
and bio-based products –  
Part 2: Chain-of-custody requirements

Duurzaam geproduceerde biomassa voor  
bio-energie en biobased producten –  
Deel 2: Eisen aan ketenbeheer

Replaces NTA 8080:2009 (en), together with NTA 8080-1:2015 (en)

ICS 03.100.50; 13.020.20; 27.190; 71.100.99; 75.160; 83.140.99

December 2015

VOORBEELD  
Preview



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## Foreword

Ambitious objectives for the share of renewable energy in the total energy consumption are being set all over the world. In many countries the use of biomass plays an important role in generating electricity and heat and in producing transport fuels. An important social consideration for the use of biomass for energy purposes is that the biomass can be demonstrated to have been produced sustainably. This is the reason why in 2009 the first edition of NTA 8080 was published. The sustainability requirements in this NTA were derived from the final report *Testing framework sustainable biomass*, that was drawn up by the “Sustainable production of biomass” project group, chaired by Jacqueline Cramer.

NTA 8080 has been used as the basis to develop a certification system that offers organizations an instrument to demonstrate that they comply with the sustainability requirements of NTA 8080. Organizations can show their compliance with NTA 8080 through a certificate issued by a certifying body following a positive assessment. The European Commission has recognized the NTA 8080 certification system as a voluntary scheme to demonstrate that the sustainability requirements for biofuels and bioliquids as laid down in Directive 2009/28/EC are fulfilled.

NTAs are reviewed at least once every three years for their being up to date and valid. In this regard, various interested parties indicated that NTA 8080 should be reviewed. The following considerations, which are presented in a random order, are some of the reasons why NTA 8080 was revised:

- The scope of NTA 8080:2009 was sustainably produced biomass for application in bioenergy. The increasing use of biomass in the chemicals and fine chemicals industries to replace fossil resources has also created the need in this sector to be able to demonstrate that the biomass to be used was produced sustainably. Keeping in mind that, in principle, the same biomass can be used for bio-based products as for bioenergy, it would be easy to extend the scope of NTA 8080 to sustainably produced biomass for application in bio-based products.
- To further the recognition of the NTA 8080 certification system by the European Commission, as referred to earlier, interpretations of the text of NTA 8080:2009 were necessary to make it fully comply with the statutory provisions of Directive 2009/28/EC. It is desirable that these interpretations should become an integrated part of NTA 8080 instead of having been laid down in an interpretation document.
- In the European context, CEN/TC 383 ‘Sustainably produced biomass for energy applications’ developed the four-part EN 16214 series for biofuels and bioliquids. All CEN members are under the obligation to adopt European standards as national standards and to withdraw any conflicting national standards. The scope of, and the sustainability aspects in, the EN 16214 series are more limited than those in NTA 8080. However, it is important that NTA 8080 is compatible with, and makes use of, European standards. As the scope is being expanded to bio-based products, the standards published and under development by CEN/TC 411 ‘Bio-based products’ should also be taken into account, acknowledging that the standards under development might be subject to changes.

**NOTE** This NTA includes references to EN standards. These standards are adopted as national standard by all countries that are a member of CEN, and are available as such (e.g. as NEN-EN in The Netherlands, DIN-EN in Germany, NF-EN in France and BS-EN in the United Kingdom).

- In international context, ISO/PC 248 ‘Sustainability criteria for bioenergy’ has developed ISO 13065 that specifies principles, criteria and indicators to facilitate assessment of environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainability of the bioenergy supply chain. This international standard should be taken into account.
- NTA 8080:2009 referred to calculation tools to calculate greenhouse gas emissions, which have since been replaced by calculation tools that were developed for the purposes of the Biograce I and Biograce II projects. In addition, it is preferred to specify the calculation method for greenhouse gas emission calculations with an informative reference to the calculation tools that can be used.

- Various projects, including pilot projects, have revealed that the requirements for some sustainability aspects in NTA 8080:2009 could be defined more concretely. For example, this concerned requirements in which it was stated that practices should be implemented according to ILO conventions and the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Some aspects from that have been clarified by means of an interpretation. It was therefore recommended to draw up NTA 8080 to be more unambiguous, so that organizations know better what is expected of them and so that auditors have more actual points of reference with which to assess organizations' compliance with the requirements. The interpretations have been taken into account.
- NTA 8080:2009 included a clause on certification requirements. In principle, certification requirements should be described in another document, which is compatible with the ISO practice. NTA 8081 describes the requirements for certification based on NTA 8080 and this has made the relevant clause in NTA 8080:2009 redundant.
- The traceability requirements were briefly described in NTA 8080:2009. When developing the certification system, the traceability requirements were elaborated in detail and laid down in the interpretation document linked to this system. It is desirable that these interpretations should become an integrated part of NTA 8080 instead of only being laid down in an interpretation document.
- The applicable sustainability requirements for biomass flows on the list of exceptions (residual flows) in Annex A to NTA 8080:2009 did not match those of Directive 2009/28/EC as regards primary flows. This has been resolved by means of an interpretation which should preferably become an integrated part of NTA 8080. As the use of residual flows is increasing, it was recommended to study the list of exceptions more closely as well.
- There is new understanding and there are new developments as regards sustainability aspects that should be considered. These concern issues such as cascading, indirect land-use change, carbon debt, how sustainable forest management certificates are handled and laws on the illegality of woody biomass.

A working group, composed of a broad spectrum of members, drew up the second edition of NTA 8080 considering the above and other points. During the revision, the working group found that, given the nature of the requirements and the strong link with certification as regards chain of custody, the sustainability requirements and the chain-of-custody requirements should be laid down in two separate documents. This is why NTA 8080 has been divided into two parts. This part of the NTA describes the requirements on chain of custody; part 1 of the NTA describes the sustainability requirements.

During the revision an expert group as part of the Dutch Energy Agreement <sup>1)</sup> started to develop sustainability criteria for solid biomass for co-firing in coal plants, as agreed in the Energy Agreement. The working group has decided to adopt the results of this expert group to ensure that this NTA can also be used to demonstrate compliance with the sustainability criteria of the Energy Agreement.

Although book and claim is referred to in this NTA as one of the three common chain-of-custody models, this NTA excludes the application of this model from the chain of custody for bioenergy or bio-based products. The full decoupling from the physical product and the sustainability claim that forms part of book and claim is not considered to be desirable. This explains why no requirements on a book and claim system have been formulated.

This NTA is intended for all organizations in the biomass chain for bioenergy and bio-based products, regardless of the size, geographical location and types of raw materials. This NTA offers organizations room to decide for themselves what shape they will give the actions they should take in order to comply with the requirements while considering the nature and extent of their activities. The organization is expected to justify its choices. This is also important if the organization chooses to have a third party assess its compliance with the requirements of this NTA.

1) The Energy Agreement is an agreement for sustainable growth that has been endorsed by more than forty organizations including government, employers and unions, nature conservation and environmental organizations, and other civil-society organizations and financial institutions. The core feature of the Energy Agreement is a set of broadly supported provisions regarding energy saving, clean technology, and climate policy.

The following verbs are used in this NTA:

- 'shall' indicates a requirement;
- 'should' indicates a recommendation;
- 'may' indicates permission;
- 'can' indicates a possibility or suitability.

The text of this NTA was drawn up by the "Herziening NTA 8080:2009" (NTA 8080:2009 revision) working group. A draft version of the NTA has been presented to a wider group of people for their comments, such as to the members of the "Duurzaamheidscriteria voor biomassa" (Sustainability criteria for biomass) standards committee and representatives of industries that are also focussing on the primary or other production of biomass, both internationally and on a small-scale level. When publishing this NTA, the working group consisted of the following members:

- Jeannette Hofman-Züter (chair person), NEN
- Chris Arthers, Essent
- Silvan de Boer, Eneco
- Corné Boot, E.On
- Arjen Brinkmann, Branche Vereniging voor Organische Reststromen ('Dutch Association of Biowaste Processors'; BVOR) and Brinkmann Consultancy
- Jorn Bronsvort, Quality Services Certification
- Harry Croezen, CE Delft
- Bart Dehue, Vattenfall
- Eric Evers, DEKRA Certification
- Timo Gerlagh, Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO)
- Marieke Harteveld, IUCN-NL
- Lawrence van Hevelingen, CNG Net
- Ria Kalf, Platform Bio-energie ('Platform Bioenergy')
- Miriam Knörzer, GDF Suez
- Harold Martina, GMSP Sustainability & Management Consultants
- Roel Nozeman, FSC Netherlands
- Leo Posthuma, National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)
- Bianca Rombout-Hage, Vereniging Afvalbedrijven ('Association for Waste Companies')
- Arjette Stevens, World Wildlife Fund the Netherlands (WNF)
- Leo van der Vlist, Netherlands Centre for Indigenous Peoples (NCIV)
- Henk Wanningen, Staatsbosbeheer ('State Forest Service')
- Harmen Willemse, NEN
- Willem Wiskerke, Greenpeace
- Jarno Dakhorst (secretary), NEN



# Sustainably produced biomass for bioenergy and bio-based products – Part 2: Chain-of-custody requirements

## 1 Scope

This part of this NTA describes the requirements on the chain of custody from biomass production to final application as bioenergy or bio-based products in order to assure the traceability of the origin of the biomass. Biomass or products made from biomass can occur in a solid, liquid or gaseous state.

This NTA applies to organizations that:

- wish to produce biomass or collect residual flows for application in bioenergy or bio-based products and wish to sell such products as sustainably produced products (also referred to as ‘producer’);
- wish to process biomass and wish to market this as sustainably obtained and sustainably processed (also referred to as ‘processor’);
- wish to trade (processed) biomass while having to be able to demonstrate that (part of) the biomass delivered has been produced, processed and obtained sustainably (also referred to as ‘trader’);
- wish to use (processed) biomass for application in bioenergy or bio-based products while having to be able to demonstrate that (part of) the biomass has been produced, processed and obtained sustainably (also referred to as ‘end-user’).

NOTE Organizations that only transport produced and or processed biomass, but do not own this material, are not included in the scope of this NTA.

Figure 1 shows the scope of this NTA and provides examples across the supply chain.

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