Green Gold Label
Instruction B.3
FIT/FIP Additional power company criteria

Extra requirements for the development and safety of Japanese power plants converting biomass

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FIT/FIP Additional power company criteria

Version 1-1
Valid from 2 March 2026 (Adoption date)

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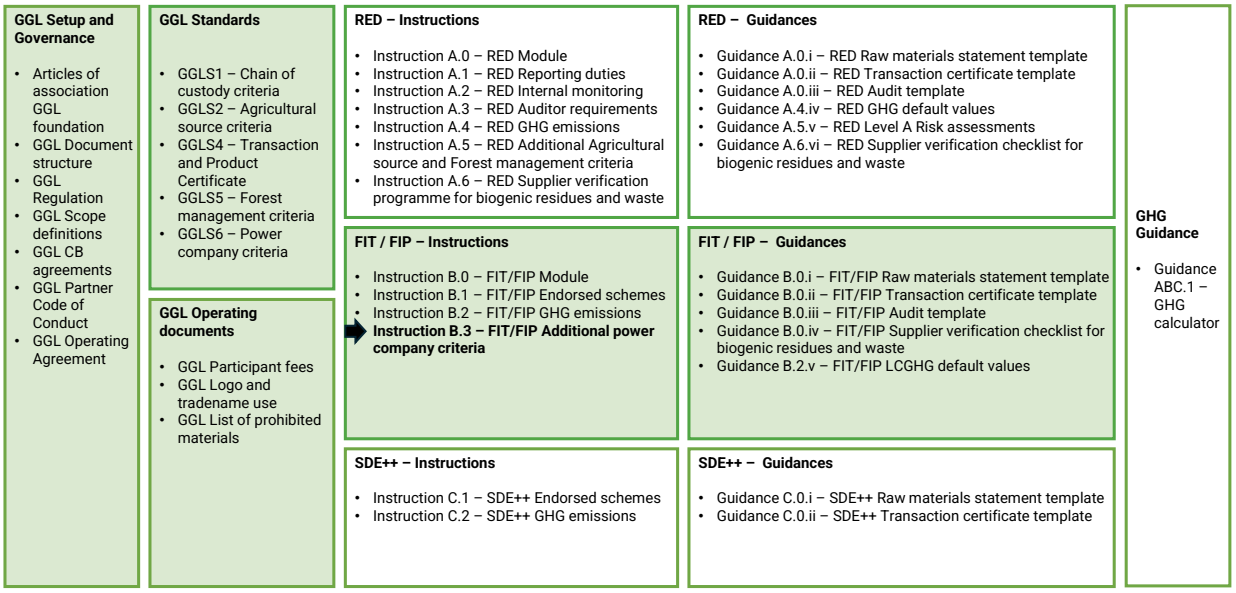
Document navigation

This Instruction is part of the GGL Module for FIT/FIP. It concerns the additional requirements for Power company safety and where specific clauses in this document deviate from the Overall documents (for example ***GGLS6 – Power company criteria***), the instructions in this document prevail.

The Overall documents comprise the GGL Setup and Governance, GGL Standards and GGL Operating documents. Additionally, the GGL scheme offers Instructions and Guidances for specific regulatory frameworks (RED, FIT/FIP, SDE+/++), which can supersede clauses in the Overall documents. This applies only when explicitly stated in the relevant Instructions and Guidances.

Refer to the ***GGL Document Structure*** (as part of the GGL Setup and Governance documents) for more detailed information on navigating and interpreting GGL documentation.



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Changes and transitioning

This is the first version of this document.

In transitioning to this current version of this document, the following applies to Certification bodies, Participants and Certificates:

Publication date	2 February 2026
Adoption date	2 March 2026
Effective date	N/A – this is the first version of this document
End of Transition period	N/A – this is the first version of this document

Glossary

Term	Definition
Adoption date	New (versions of) GGL documents include an Adoption date in the transitioning section. This date indicates when certification against the GGL Scheme and the specific document becomes possible. Certifications based on previous versions will remain valid until the Effective date of the new document.
Audit	Formal examination and inspection by a GGL-approved Certification Body of an organization's processes and activities to verify compliance in accordance with ISO-19011. In contrast, an audit differs from an internal audit.
Biomass	Biomass refers to the biodegradable portion of products, waste, and residues derived from biological sources in agriculture, which includes both plant and animal materials. It also encompasses materials from forestry and related industries, such as fisheries and aquaculture. Additionally, biomass includes the biodegradable fraction of waste, including industrial and municipal waste of biological origin.
Certification Body / CB	An independent third party evaluates and certifies the certification process. Certification bodies approved by GGL for one or more GGL scopes are listed on the GGL website.
Effective date	New (versions of) GGL documents specify an Effective Date. This is the date after which certification can only be granted according to the GGL Scheme and the specific document that has the Effective Date. Certification based on previous versions of the document is no longer considered valid.
Foundation / GGL Foundation	The Green Gold Label Foundation owns the Green Gold Label (GGL) scheme, including all technical documents, promotional materials, logos, websites, and other intellectual properties related to GGL.
GGL Biomass	Biomass certified with a GGL-Certified or GGL-Controlled claim.
GGL-Certified	Biomass that has been certified against all applicable GGL criteria, or against a certification scheme other than GGL, which has been endorsed and approved by the relevant authorities (e.g., EU for RED, METI for FIT/FIP) and holds equivalent status. GGL-Certified biomass meets all criteria for sustainability and legality.
Installation	An installation refers to a physical production facility that generates fuel, heat, cooling, or electricity. An installation is considered to be in operation once it has begun the physical production of biofuels, biogas used in the transport sector, bioliquids, as well as heating and cooling, and electricity from biomass fuels.
Participant / GGL Participant	An economic operator that has been certified under the ***GGL Regulation*** Section G, or under another certification scheme endorsed and approved by the relevant authorities (e.g., EU for RED or METI for FIT/FIP), holds equivalent status. This includes forest and agricultural biomass producers, waste and residue producers, first gathering points, collectors, suppliers, traders, processing plants, and conversion plants (end-users).
Point of origin	The location where the raw material directly originates, before its classification as GGL Biomass.

Term	Definition
Publication date	New (versions of) GGL documents include their Publication date, which indicates when that version is published. Certification against a new version cannot occur until after its Adoption date.
Raw material	The batch of biomass from a single Point of origin before it is classified as GGL Biomass, for which a single Raw Material Statement is verified and that falls within a single GGL Category of biomass.
RMS / Raw Material Statement	A certified statement describing the batch of raw materials brought into GGL supply chains by a GGL Participant that meets the requirements of ***GGLS1 - Chain of Custody criteria*** and applicable GGL Modules.
Site	Site refers to a specific geographical location, including logistical facilities and transmission or distribution infrastructures, characterized by defined boundaries within which products can be mixed.
Solid	Material that does not flow noticeably under moderate stress, differing from liquid or gaseous states.
TC / Transaction certificate	A certified statement of a transaction between GGL Participants that meets requirements of ***GGLS4 - Transaction and product certificate***.
Transition period	The new versions of the GGL documents specify the end of a Transition Period. This is the time until which (re-)certification decisions made before the Effective Date (based on the previous version of the document) remain valid. During the Transition Period, audits conducted by a Certification Body must be based solely on the valid (new) version of the GGL Scheme documents.

A. Introduction & scope

A.1
METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) in Japan has identified requirements for FIT/FIP approval for Power companies before they become operational.

This instruction details when and how Power companies may be certified against GGL Standards, including ***GGLS6 – Power company criteria***, when they are not yet operational.

A.2
The Japan Carbon Frontier Organisation in Japan has published safety measures for storing and handling woody biomass.

A.2.1 This recommendation has identified specific fire and explosion risks relating to handling and storing of woody biomass in a document called "Effective Countermeasures for Preventing Accidents in Biomass Power Generation Facilities", dated 16 December 2025 [1]

A.2.2 The ISO 20024:2020 standard provides a risk-based approach for the safe storage and handling of solid biofuel pellets in commercial and industrial applications, including power generation.

A.2.3 This instruction details when and how Power companies may be certified against GGL Standards, including ***GGLS6 – Power company criteria*** regarding ISO 20024:2020.

A.3
Requirements in this document are in addition to GGL Standards, including ***GGLS6 – Power company criteria***. Power companies under Japanese FIT/FIP regulations may also choose to comply with:

A.3.1 Principle 1 and Principle 2 of this instruction; and/or,

A.3.2 Principle 3 of this instruction.

[1] https://www.jcoal.or.jp/eng/upload/Effective%20Countermeasures%20for%20Preventing%20Accidents%20in%20Biomass.pdf

Principle 1. Power companies that are not yet operational may be certified under GGL if its Certification Body bases the certification decision on documented information and interviews.

1.01 Power companies that are not yet operational may be certified against GGL requirements based on detailed designs, documentation and interviews.

1.02 Before the Initial audit, the Certification Body's auditor shall determine whether sufficient data are available to complete the audit. These data shall contain at least:

- Profile of the power company;
- Land acquisition status and related documentation (including Seal Registration Certificate, Certified Copy of the Registry);
- Information demonstrating compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Technical and engineering details of the power plant design, power generation equipment and wiring diagrams;
- Fuel procurement and usage plans;
- Environmental impact assessment reports;
- Project implementation schedule; and
- Other project-level information that may be relevant for pre-operation certification

1.03 Detailed design data shall be brought up to date within six (6) months of any of the following events by a Power company:

a) Operations have started;
b) Raw material has been brought into GGL supply chains with a Raw Material Statement; or,
c) GGL Biomass has been bought with a Transaction Certificate.

1.04 The Power company must have a physical site that can be audited by the Certification Body and have at least a provisional operating permit.

1.05 Measurement instruments shall be installed and calibrated before biomass amounts are measured and actual values are reviewed.

Principle 2. An audit shall be conducted within six (6) months after the start of activities, and all designs and documentation shall be up to date.

2.01 Any non-conformity identified at a Power company before its operations have started shall be corrected in its detailed designs and/or documentation.

2.02 Within six (6) months of an event mentioned in 1.03, the Power company shall be audited to verify that the detailed design and documentation align with the site's actual attributes.

2.03 The audit referred to in 2.01 is in addition to any annual or surveillance audits that have been conducted or are planned.

Principle 3. Power companies certified as GGL Participants that are ISO 20024:2020 compliant may use the claim "GGL+Safety-Certified"

3.01 Power companies certified as GGL Participant may choose to be certified against ISO 20024:2020 by their Certification Body, provided that the Certification Body also holds a valid accreditation to conduct audits against ISO 20024:2020.

3.02 Power companies certified as GGL Participants that hold a valid certification against ISO 20024:2020 receive an exclusive license from the GGL Foundation to use the claim “GGL+Safety-Certified” in the public domain.

Note - This GGL+Safety-Certification is not required for Power companies as GGL Participants, but is recommended nonetheless for the safe storage and handling of woody biomass.

3.03 This licence to use the claim is automatically withdrawn when the ISO 20024:2020 certification of the GGL+Safety-Certified Power company expires. Power companies that are certified as GGL Participants shall inform their Certification Body immediately when their ISO 20024:2020 certification is no longer valid.