
Consuming renewables in Japan: REC Systems, Scope 2 criteria and role of the consumer

Location: Conference room at Nippon Express Worker's Union (7th floor), Tokyo, Japan

Time: 13:30 – 17:00 : August 31, 2017

Chairman: Kae Takase, CDP Japan

Background

The seminar is about the development and promotion of renewable electricity. As more Japanese and international companies are switching to renewable energy the importance of standards (such as the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Scope 2 guidance document, CDP and RE100) are increasing as well. This session will focus on the development of renewable (green) electricity in Japan and how this can be consumed by corporate companies.

This seminar turns the focus to corporate and large electricity end-users and their developing role in the electricity sector. The role of national systems (J-Credit, Green Power) is important, but so too are voluntary and international standards like the International REC Standard (I-REC Standard). The question of how these systems interact will be discussed. The goal of the session is to bring users and experts together, to share experiences and thoughts as well as make concrete steps towards a harmonized Japanese electricity attribute (REC) tracking system. The seminar is a joint effort between RECS International and CDP Japan.

13:30 – 13:45 Introduction

Kae Takase, CDP Japan

The workshop is intended to discuss the development of attribute tracking systems in Japan and review what mechanisms are in place to allow for reliable end-user procurement of renewable electricity. Kae will discuss the role of CDP and how they are working to promote reliable claims related to carbon footprints in Japan. In this aspect Kae will review the important stakeholders and discuss the history of renewable electricity procurement in Japan while also describing where they believe the future will take us. Special attention will be paid to the electricity system in Japan and the role consumers have had or will have in supporting RES.

13:45 – 14:10 The workings of the European Guarantee of Origin and US REC System

Jared Braslawsky, RECS International

In the late 1990s we saw the first initiatives to implement consumer choice in the electricity industry. As the systems gained popularity, so too did stakeholders' interest and they began to push for improvements. Consequently electricity end-users became better protected. Local attribute tracking systems increased in reliability: in Europe as the Guarantee of Origin (GO) system and in the US as state and national Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) programs. These systems are now the backbone of electricity product choice in Europe and the US. How these systems work and interact with the accounting of scope 2 emissions in the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Scope 2, CDP and RE100 are also of critical importance. Results and analysis Europe and US will be presented.

(14:10-14:20 Q&A, Discussion)

14:20 – 14:40 Role of consumers and desire to procure renewable

Jules Chuang, Mt. Stonegate Asset Management

International corporate companies are increasingly interested in procuring renewable electricity for their operations. They are doing this to ensure a low-scope 2 accounting number but also to support their stakeholders and shareholders. Corporate end-users are looking to procure renewables from specific technologies, locations and installations. What they are looking for however is that the standards that guarantee this are as standardized as possible. How corporate end-users look at electricity procurement and the role of market players will be discussed.

(14:40-14:50 Q&A, Discussion)

14:50 – 15:05 Break

15:05 – 15:30 Development of the International REC Standard (I-REC Standard)

Jared Braslawsky, RECS International

In an effort to compile international best practices in tracking electricity the International REC Standard (I-REC Standard) has developed the I-REC Code documentation. This can easily be implemented by national governments and other stakeholders in locations where there is the need for internationally recognized and robust voluntary tracking systems. As more countries adhere to the International REC Standard, market players and other stakeholders have learned quite a lot. Determining a potential role for the I-REC Standard in Japan would be part of the broader discussion had with attendees of the workshop. An overview of I-REC systems and volumes will be presented.

(15:30-15:40 Q&A, Discussion)

15:40 – 16:00 History of Systems in Japan

TBD, IEEJ or CRIEPI

(16:00-16:10 Q&A, Discussion)

16:10 – 16:30 J-Credit as part of a larger plan

TBD, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and Ministry of Environment (MOE)

The J-Credit scheme, historically an offsetting mechanism, is currently undergoing a reformulation to allow for J-Credits to be used in adherence with the GHGP Scope 2 guidance. METI and/or MOE will provide a history of the J-credit system and provide an overview of the redevelopment of the system for use as an attribute tracking system. Focus will also be given to the registry and system which administers the credits.

The J-Credit scheme will be discussed in the greater context of policy initiatives that are taking place in Japan. What is being done to promote renewables in Japan and how does the J-Credit interact. What is the role of PPA agreements and other direct procurement options. How international market players and consumers be able to interact and how support/subsidy systems interact with the J-Credit scheme will be part of this discussion.

(16:15-16:30 Q&A, Discussion)

16:30 – 17:00 Discussion with all attendees on future of Japanese tracking systems

Access to the Venue

5 minutes walk from Tokyo Metro Ginza line "Toranomom" station → Exit 5,6,11.

8 minutes walk from Tokyo Metro Marunouchi line "Kokkai Gijido Mae" station → Exit 2,3,4.

- We will have casual reception afterwards, with approximately 3000 yen fee (depends on the plan).

Registration:

<https://goo.gl/forms/JaYosCmycVyi8qU92>

In case you cannot access the form, please write an e-mail to Kae Takase (kae.takase@cdp.net) with 1) Your name 2) Organization 3) e-mail 4) attendance to the reception 5) any questions.